

LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES®

T.&M. BIERBAUM

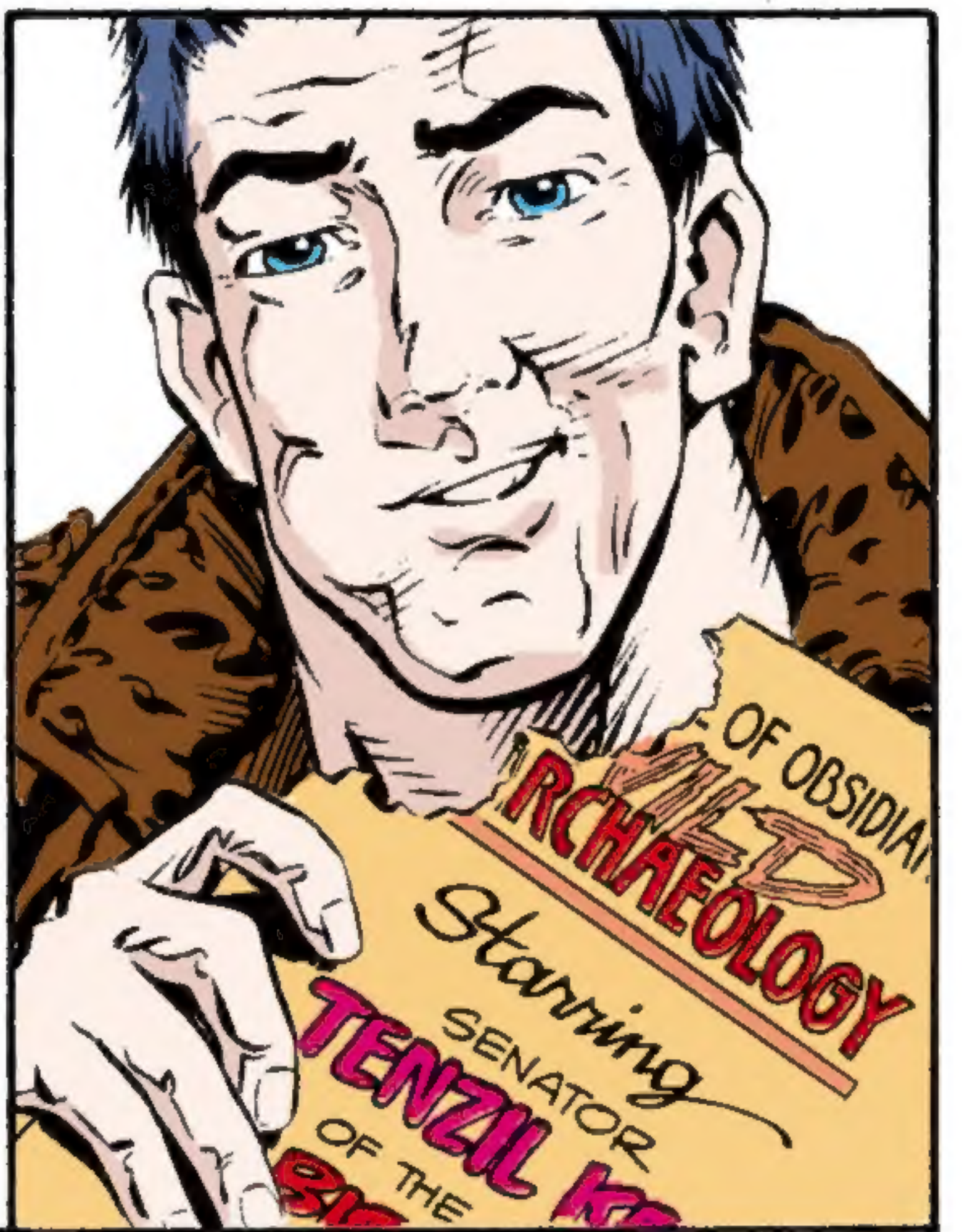
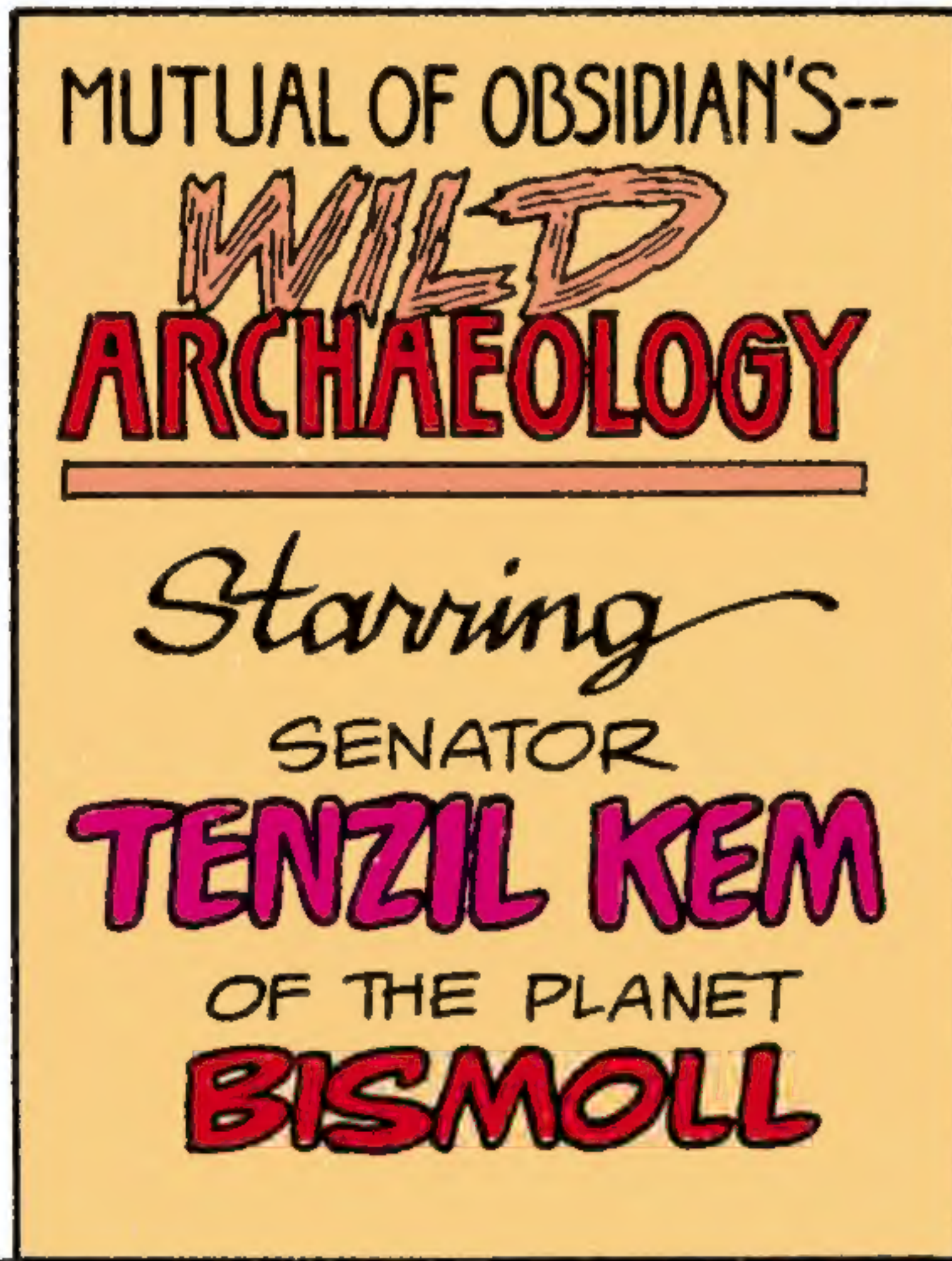
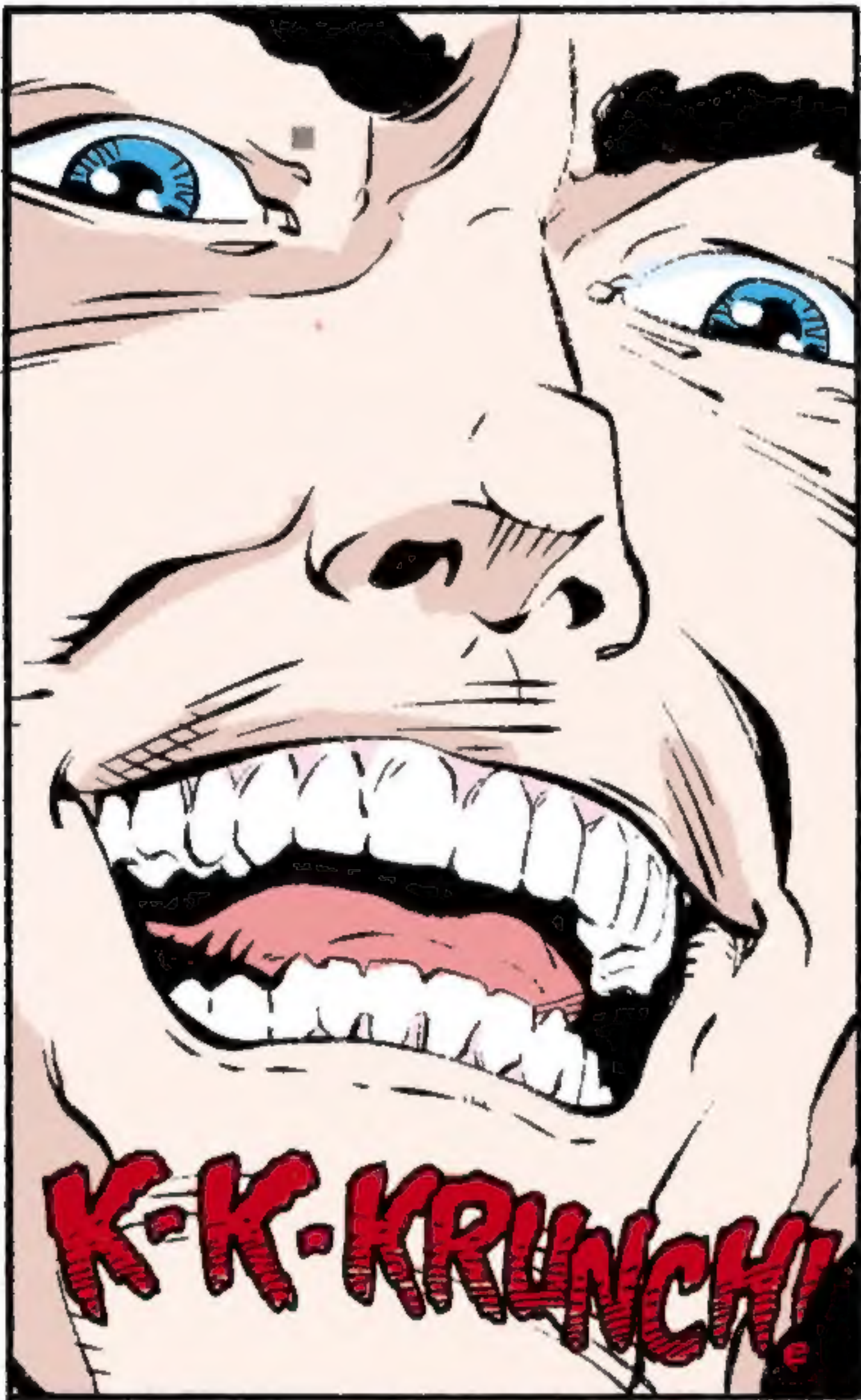
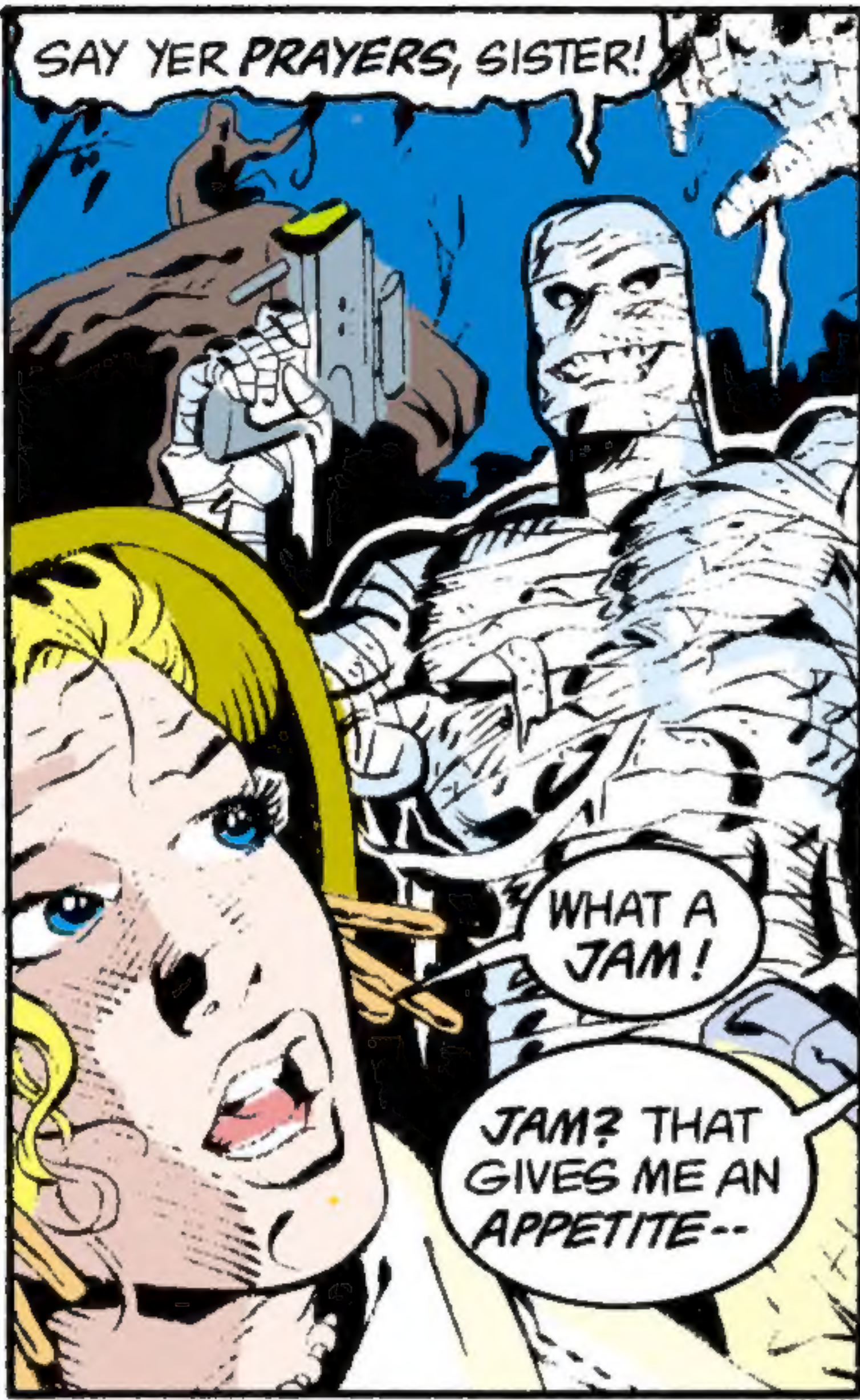
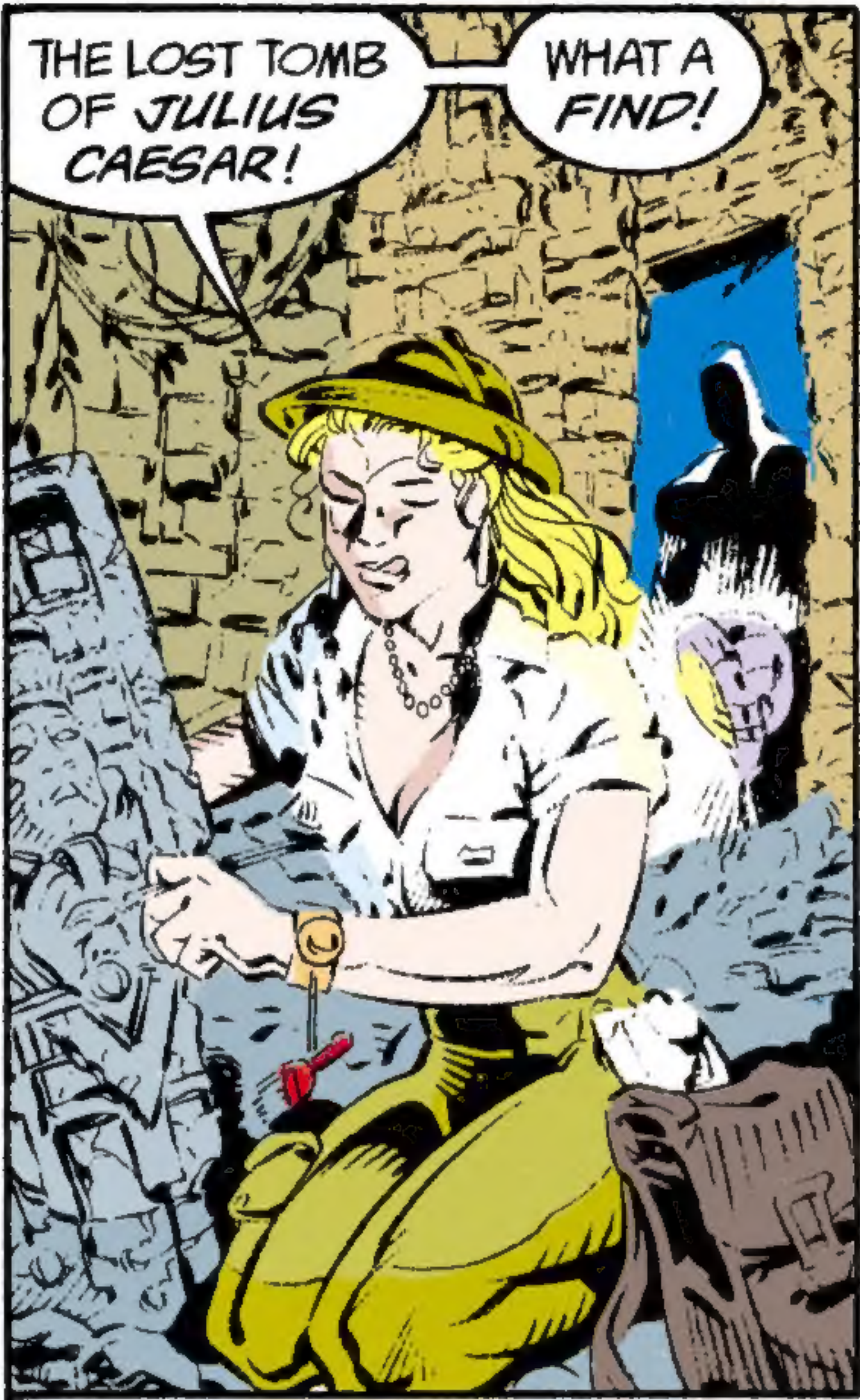
KEITH GIFFEN

CRAIG BRASFIELD

AL GORDON



**TEZIL KEM TAKES A
BITE OUT OF CRIME!**



**WINATHIAN
HOLOCASTING
CORPORATION
NEWS BULLETIN**

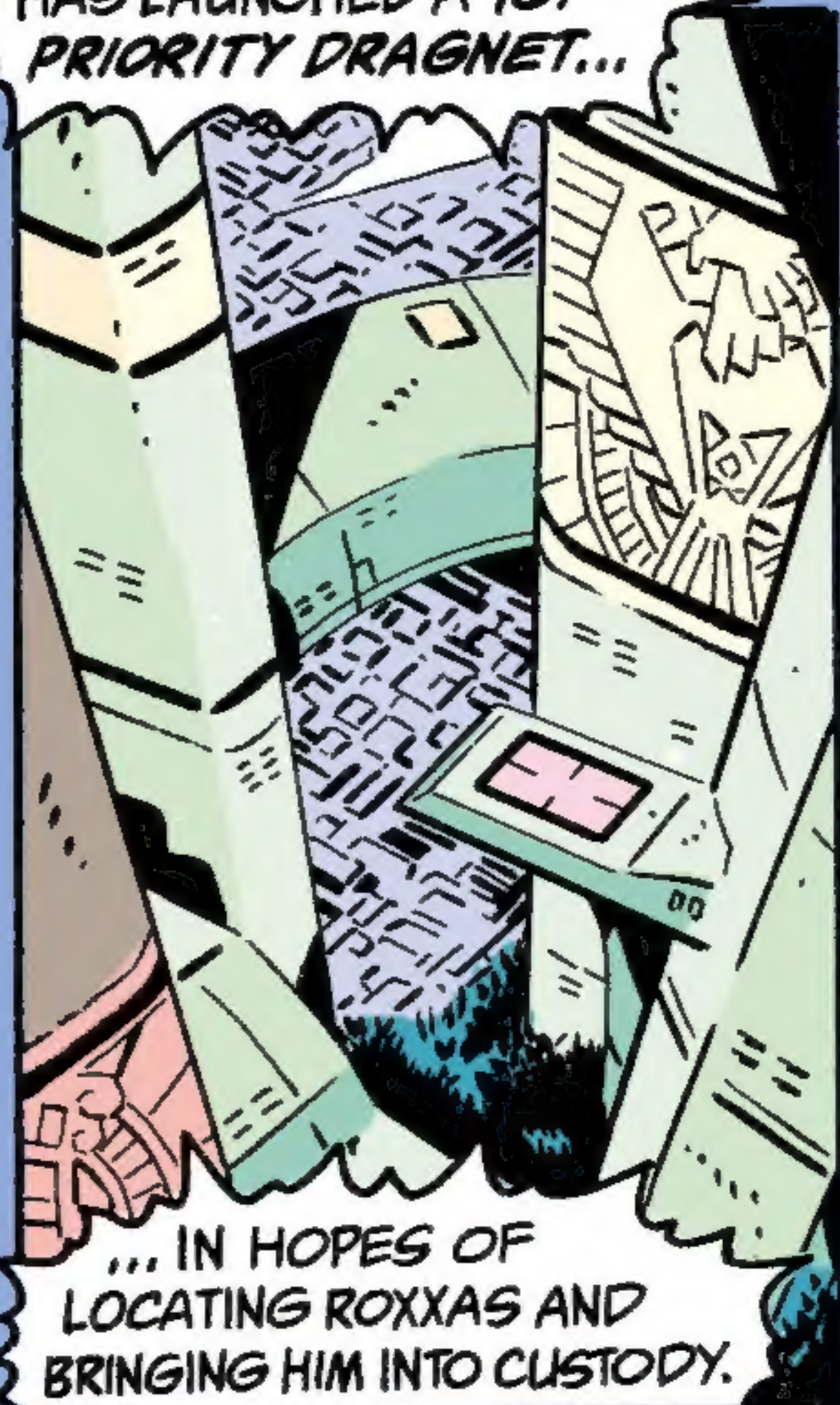
WE INTERRUPT THIS
PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING
NEWS BULLETIN ...

WINATHIAN RESIDENTS IN THE
BLOOMFIELD DISTRICT ARE BEING
URGED TO EXERCISE *EXTREME
CAUTION* AND TO *STAY INDOORS*
IF AT ALL POSSIBLE.



*THIS MAN, KIVUN ROXXAS,
IS BELIEVED TO BE IN THE AREA
AND IS CONSIDERED QUITE
DANGEROUS.*

SCIENCE POLICE WINATH
HAS LAUNCHED A *TOP-
PRIORITY DRAGNET...*

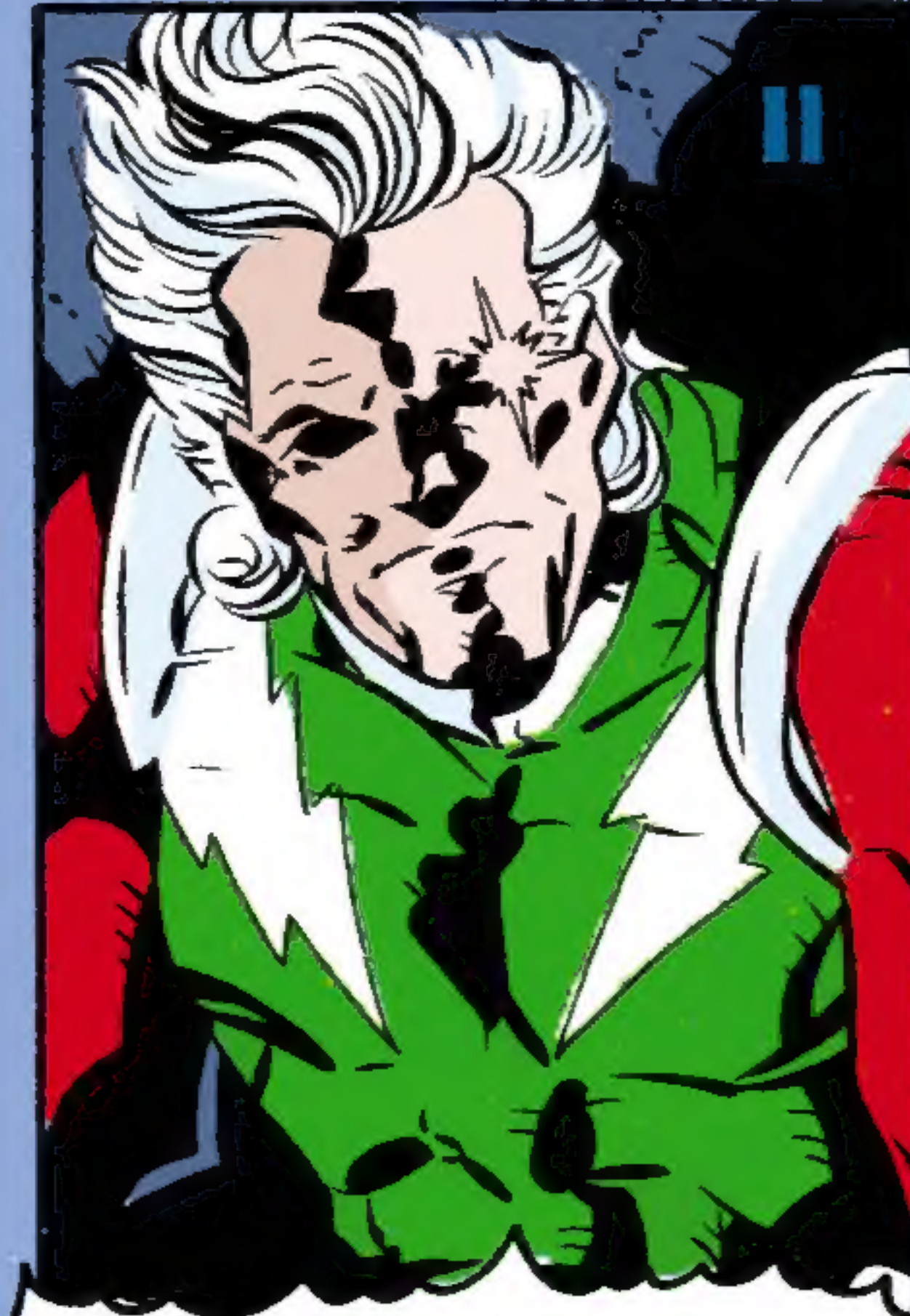


... IN HOPES OF
LOCATING ROXXAS AND
BRINGING HIM INTO CUSTODY.

AN OFFICER IN THE FIELD
GAVE US *THIS COMMENT...*



WE BELIEVE THE SUSPECT
DID VIOLENTLY ATTACK THE
LIGHTING RING PLANTATION. WE'RE
URGING *EXTREME CAUTION*.



AMONG THOSE *THOUGHT* TO
HAVE BEEN INJURED BY ROXXAS IS
WINATHIAN MEKT RANZZ, FORMERLY
THE VILLAINOUS *LIGHTNING LORD*.

AND THIS *FULL LIST* OF
CASUALTIES HAS BEEN
REPORTED BY *EARTHGOV
NEWS...*

BELIEVED DEAD
Reep Daggle
Jo Nah

EXTREMELY GRAVE CONDITION
Celeste Rockfish

STABLE CONDITION
Bounty
Mekt Ranzz

ALLERGIC REACTION
Devlin O'Ryan

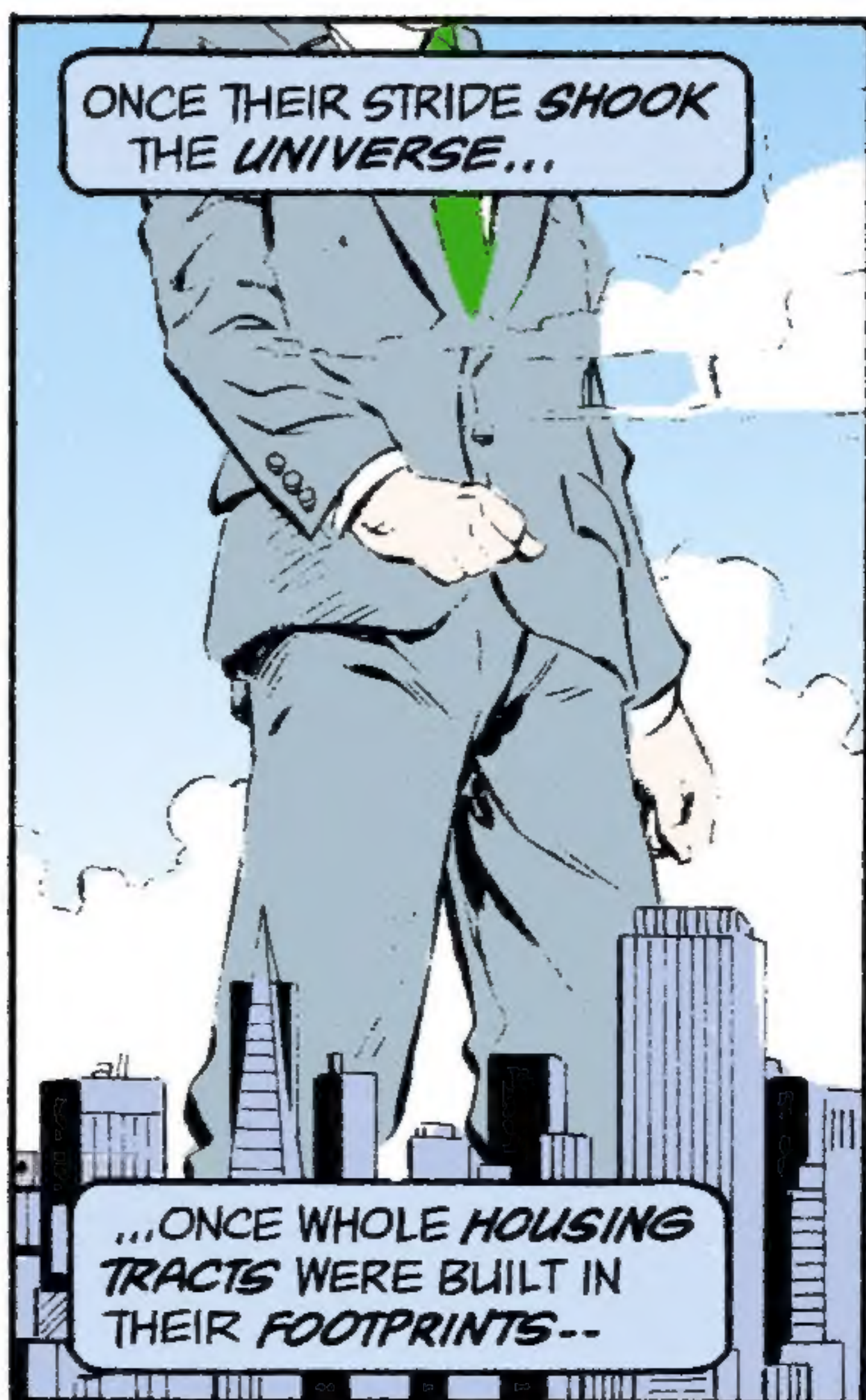
HOWEVER, IT'S IMPORTANT TO
REMEMBER THIS LIST HAS *NOT*
BEEN CONFIRMED...



... AND *EARTHGOV*
IS OFTEN CONSIDERED
AN *UNRELIABLE SOURCE*
OF INFORMATION.

PLEASE STAY *TUNED TO
WHC* FOR FURTHER
DEVELOPMENTS...

**WE NOW
RETURN TO OUR
REGULAR
PROGRAMMING**

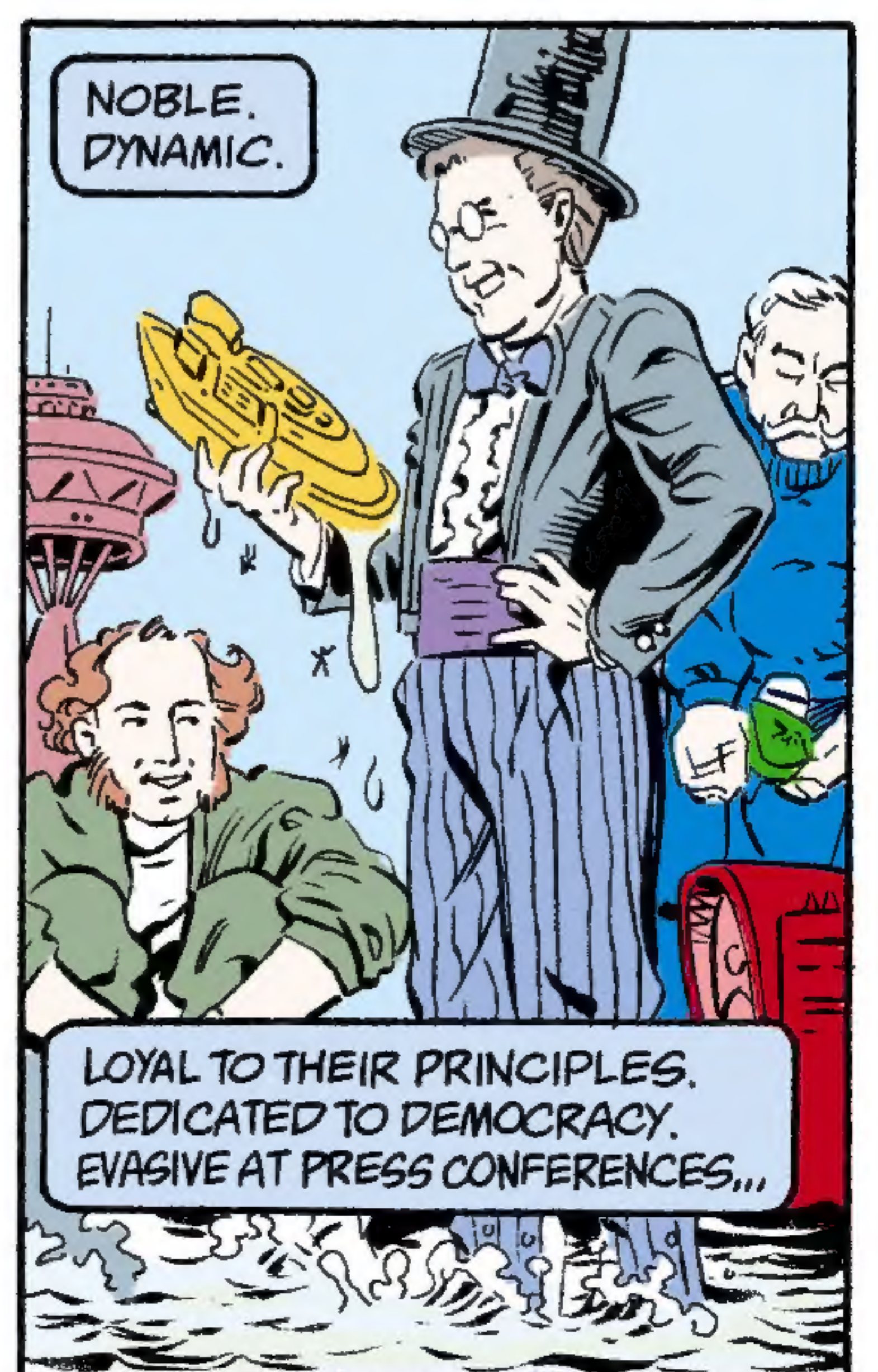


ONCE THEIR STRIDE *SHOOK* THE *UNIVERSE*...

...ONCE WHOLE *HOUSING TRACTS* WERE BUILT IN THEIR *FOOTPRINTS*--

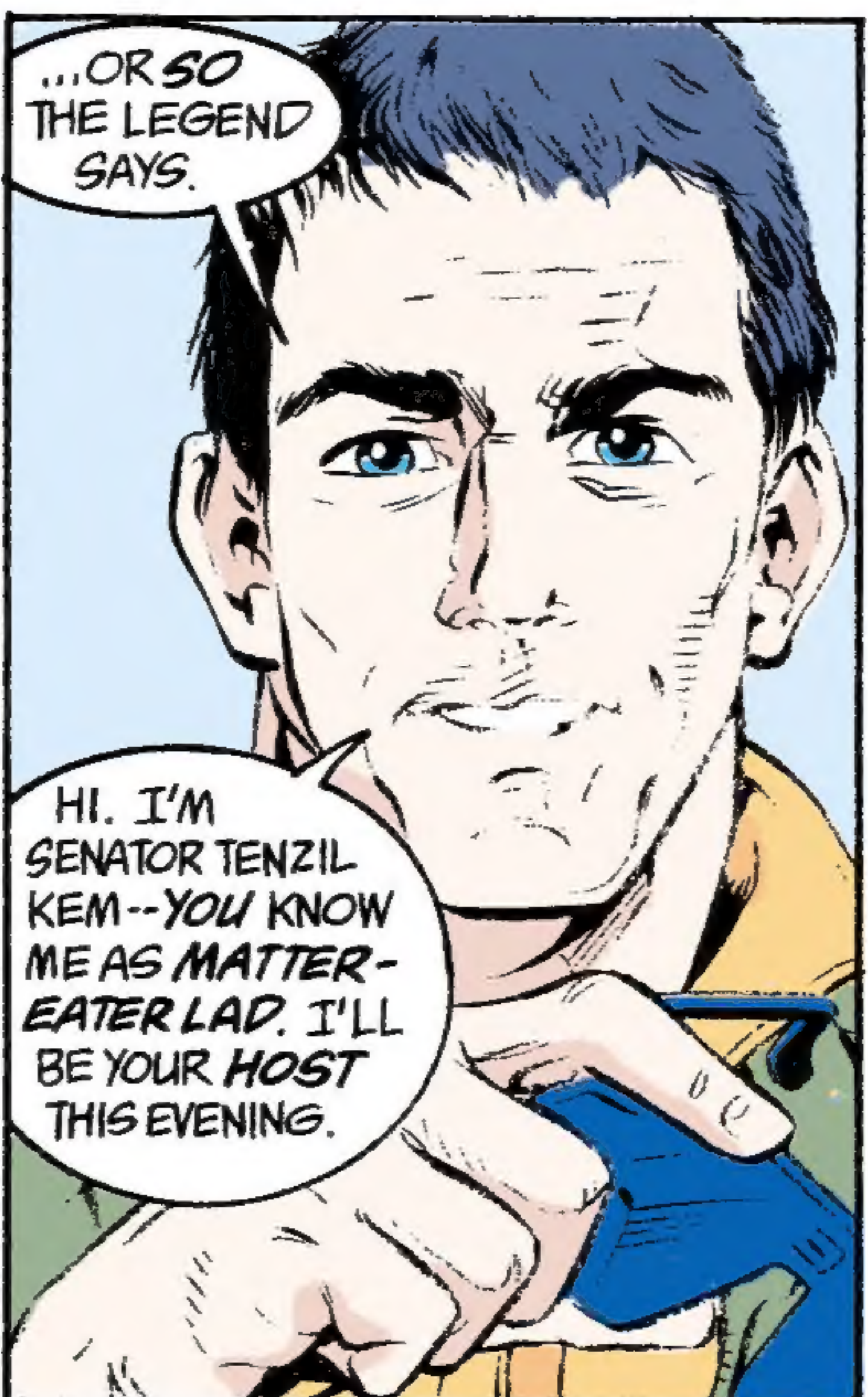


--THE *TITAN PRESIDENTS* OF *BISMOLL*!



NOBLE. DYNAMIC.

LOYAL TO THEIR PRINCIPLES. DEDICATED TO DEMOCRACY. EVASIVE AT PRESS CONFERENCES...



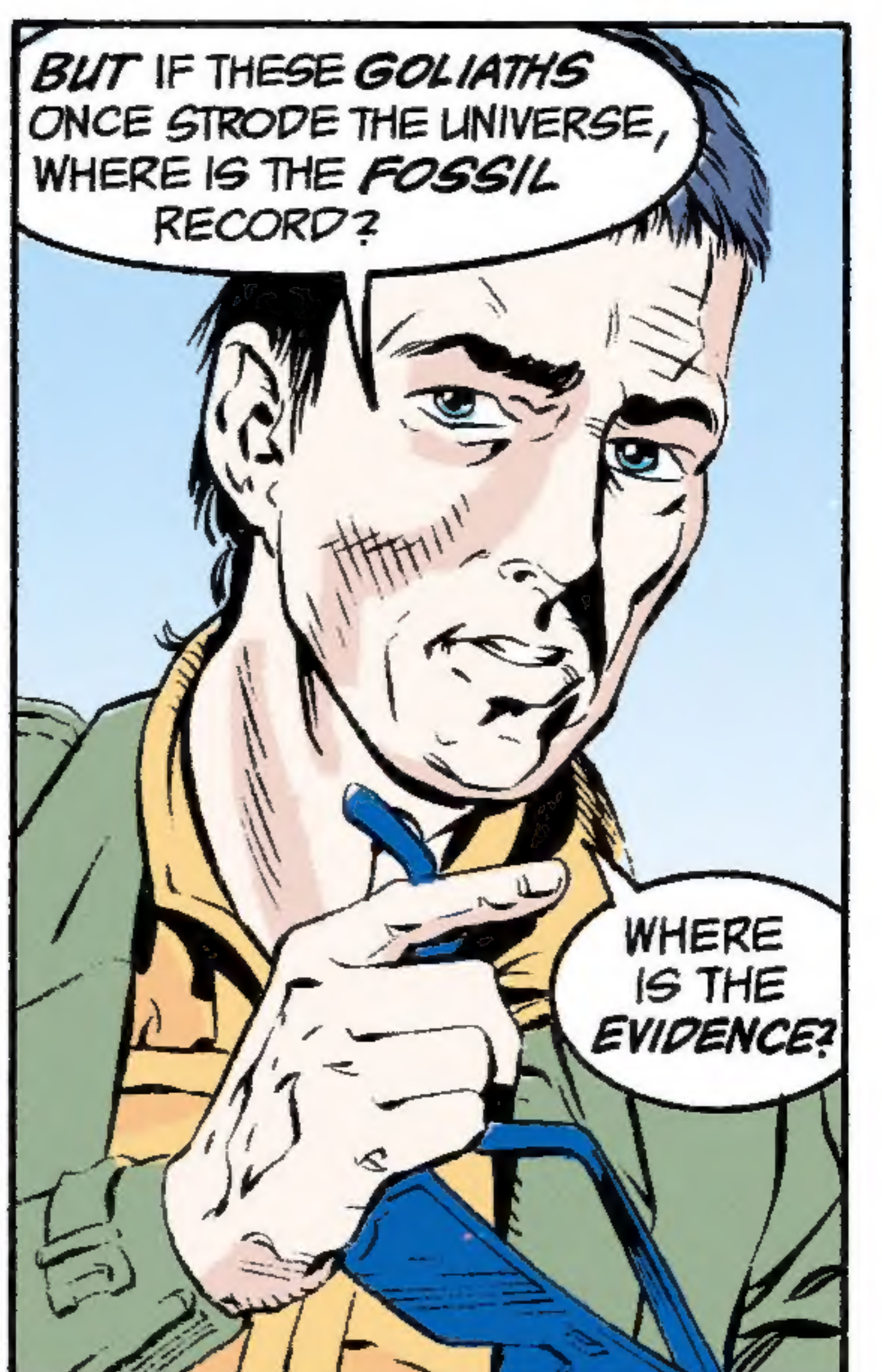
...OR *SO* THE *LEGEND* SAYS.

HI. I'M SENATOR *TENZIL KEM*--YOU KNOW ME AS *MATTER-EATER LAD*. I'LL BE YOUR *HOST* THIS EVENING.



THE *TITAN PRESIDENTS* OF *BISMOLL*--MYTH? *LEGEND*? *HOAX*? OR... SOMETHING *ELSE*?

PERHAPS... *PROVABLE FACT*.



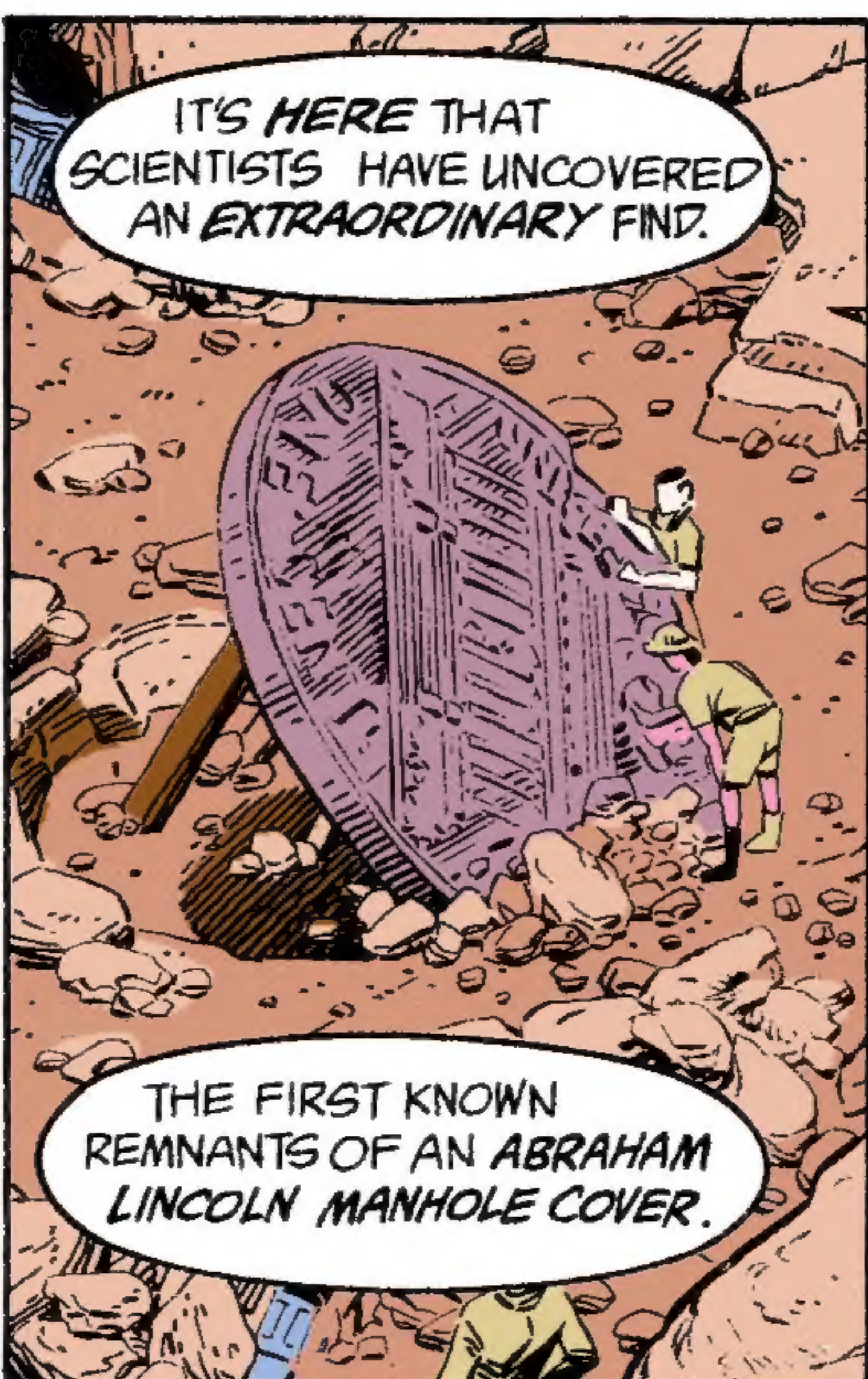
BUT IF THESE *GOLIATHS* ONCE STRODE THE *UNIVERSE*, WHERE IS THE *FOSSIL RECORD*?

WHERE IS THE *EVIDENCE*?



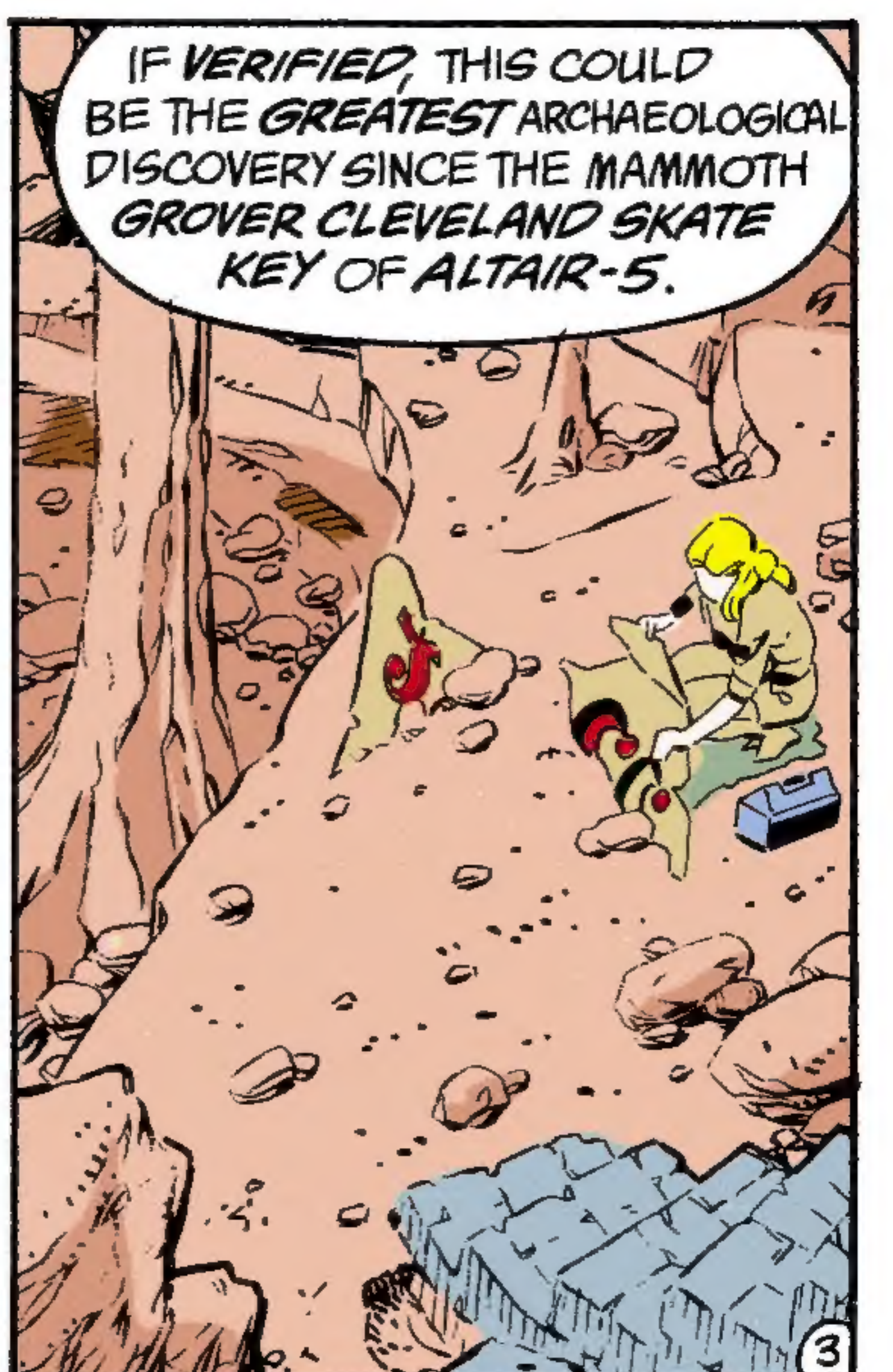
HERE--

--I'M *STANDING* AT AN *ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG* IN THE *JERSEY DISTRICT* OF *METROPOLIS*.

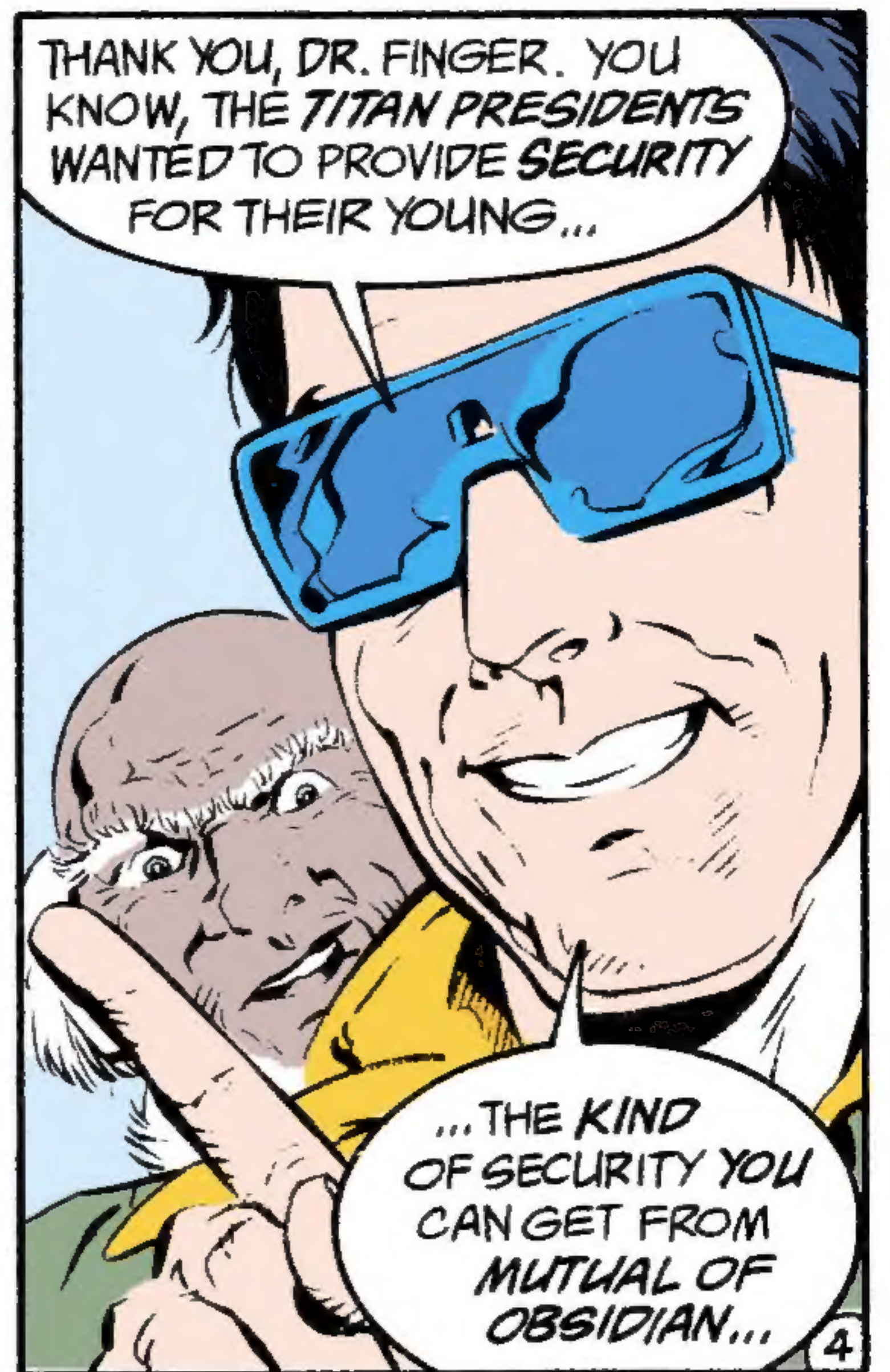
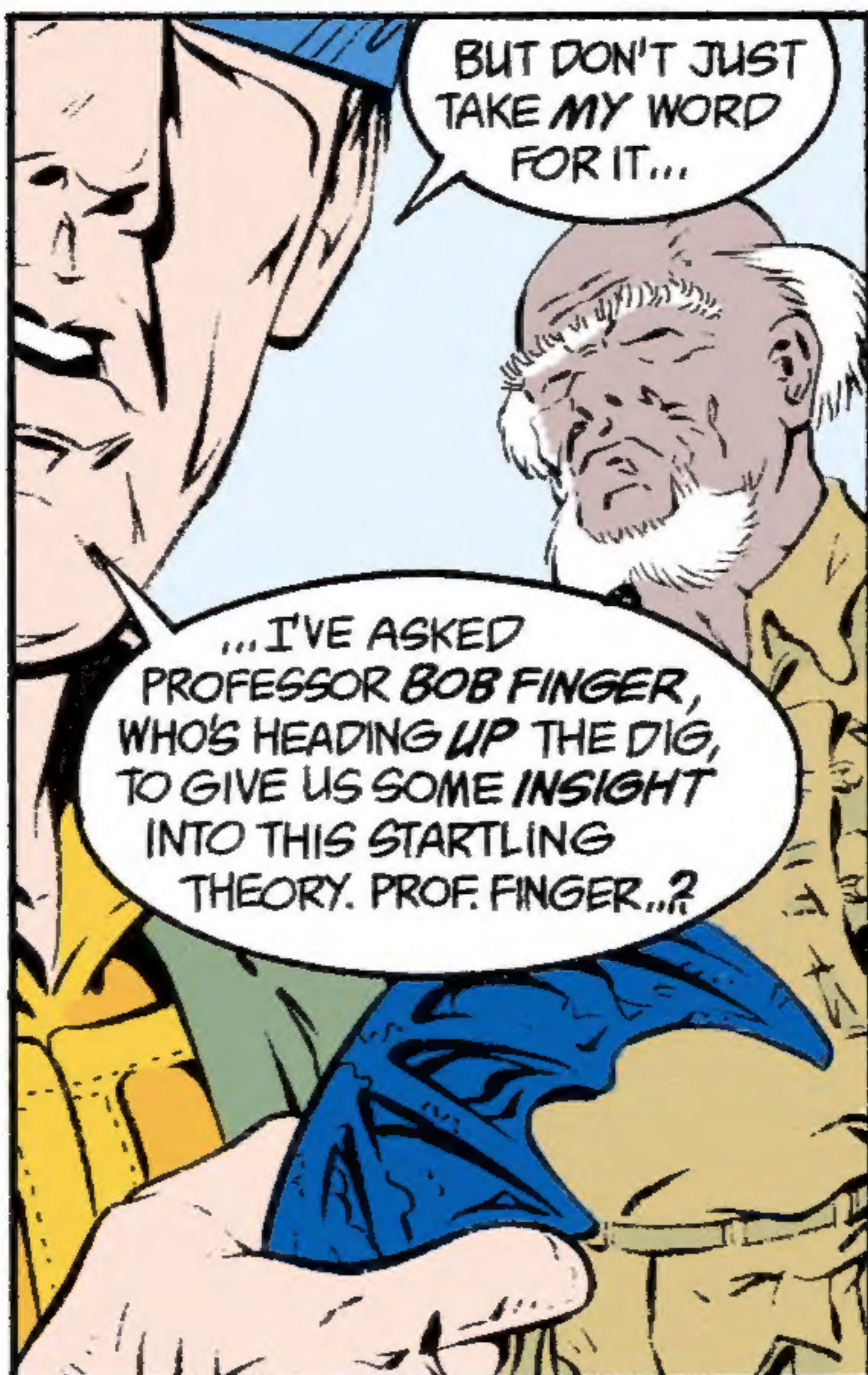
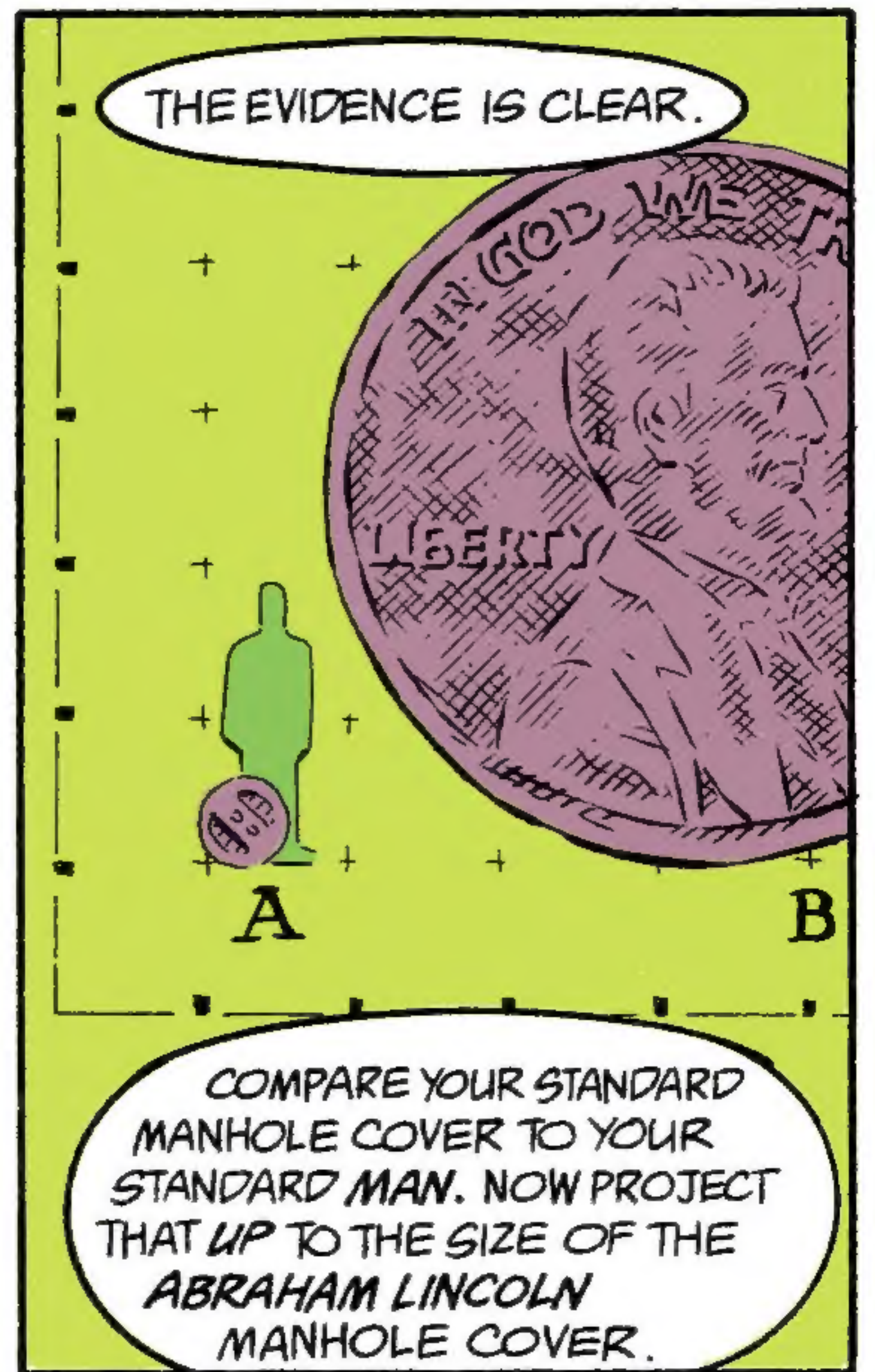
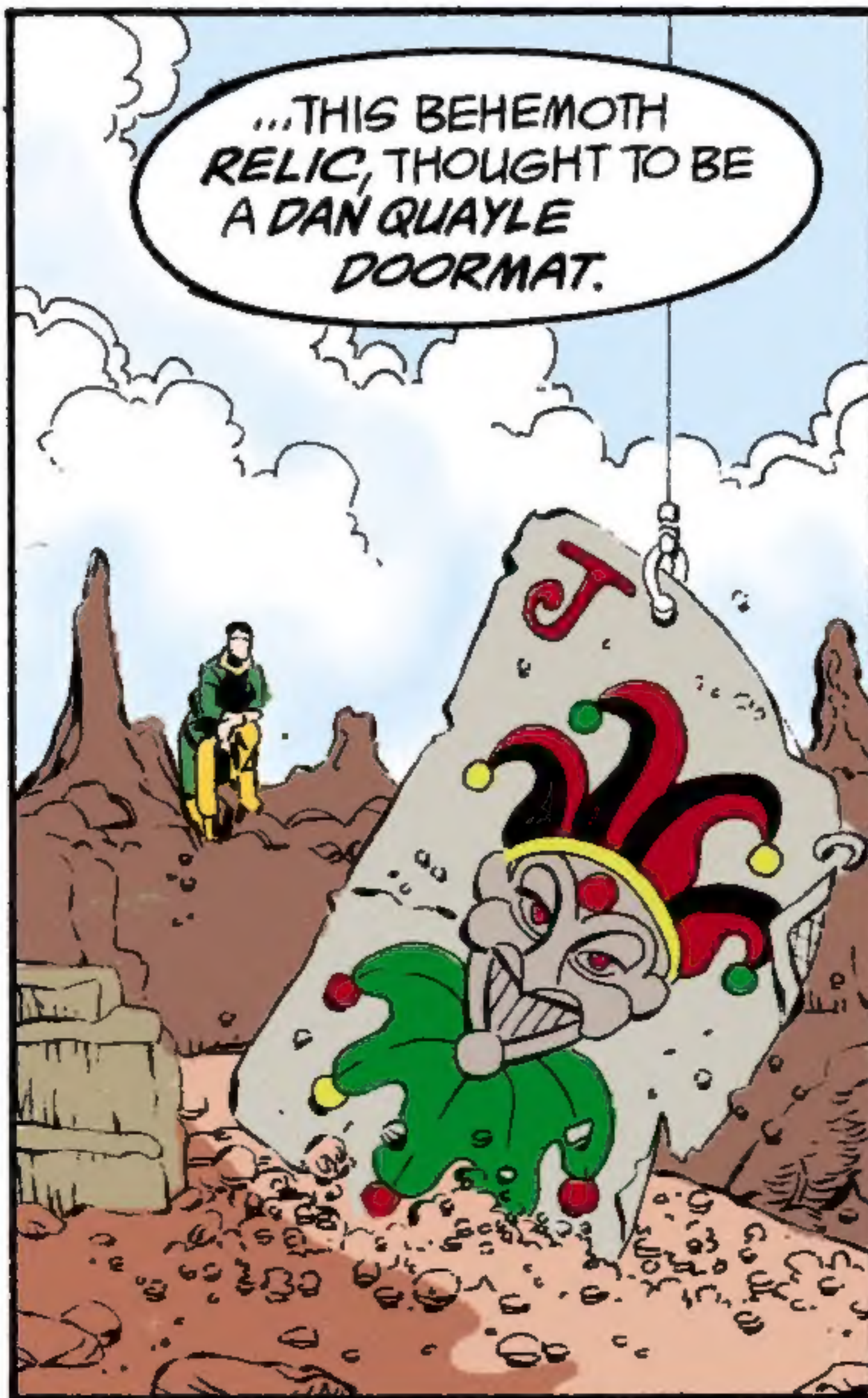


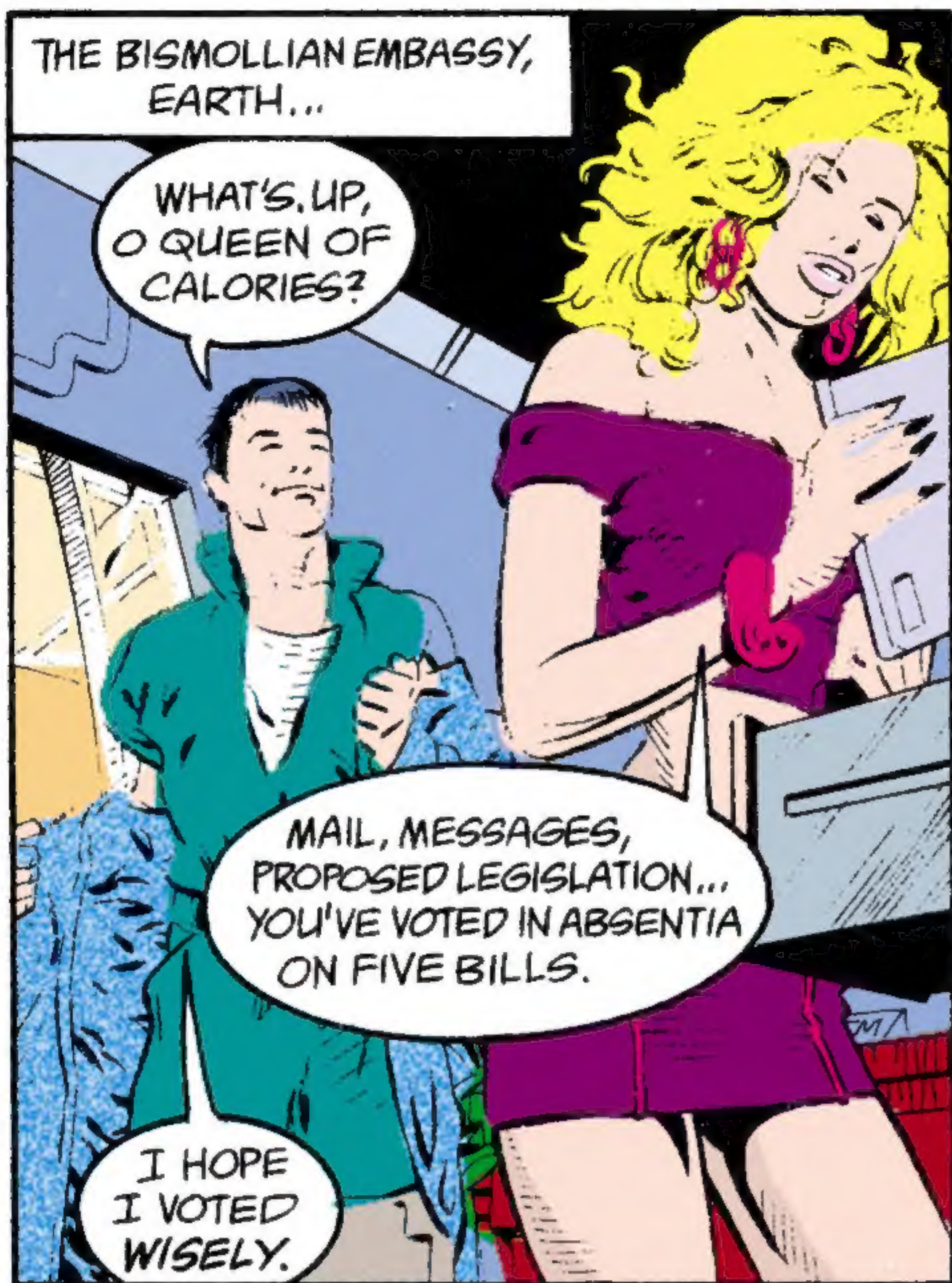
IT'S *HERE* THAT *SCIENTISTS* HAVE UNCOVERED AN *EXTRAORDINARY FIND*.

THE FIRST KNOWN REMNANTS OF AN *ABRAHAM LINCOLN MANHOLE COVER*.



IF *VERIFIED*, THIS COULD BE THE *GREATEST* *ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY* SINCE THE *MAMMOTH GROVER CLEVELAND SKATE KEY* OF *ALTAIR-5*.





THE BISMOLLIAN EMBASSY,
EARTH...

WHAT'S UP,
O QUEEN OF
CALORIES?

MAIL, MESSAGES,
PROPOSED LEGISLATION...
YOU'VE VOTED IN ABSENTIA
ON FIVE BILLS.

I HOPE
I VOTED
WISELY.

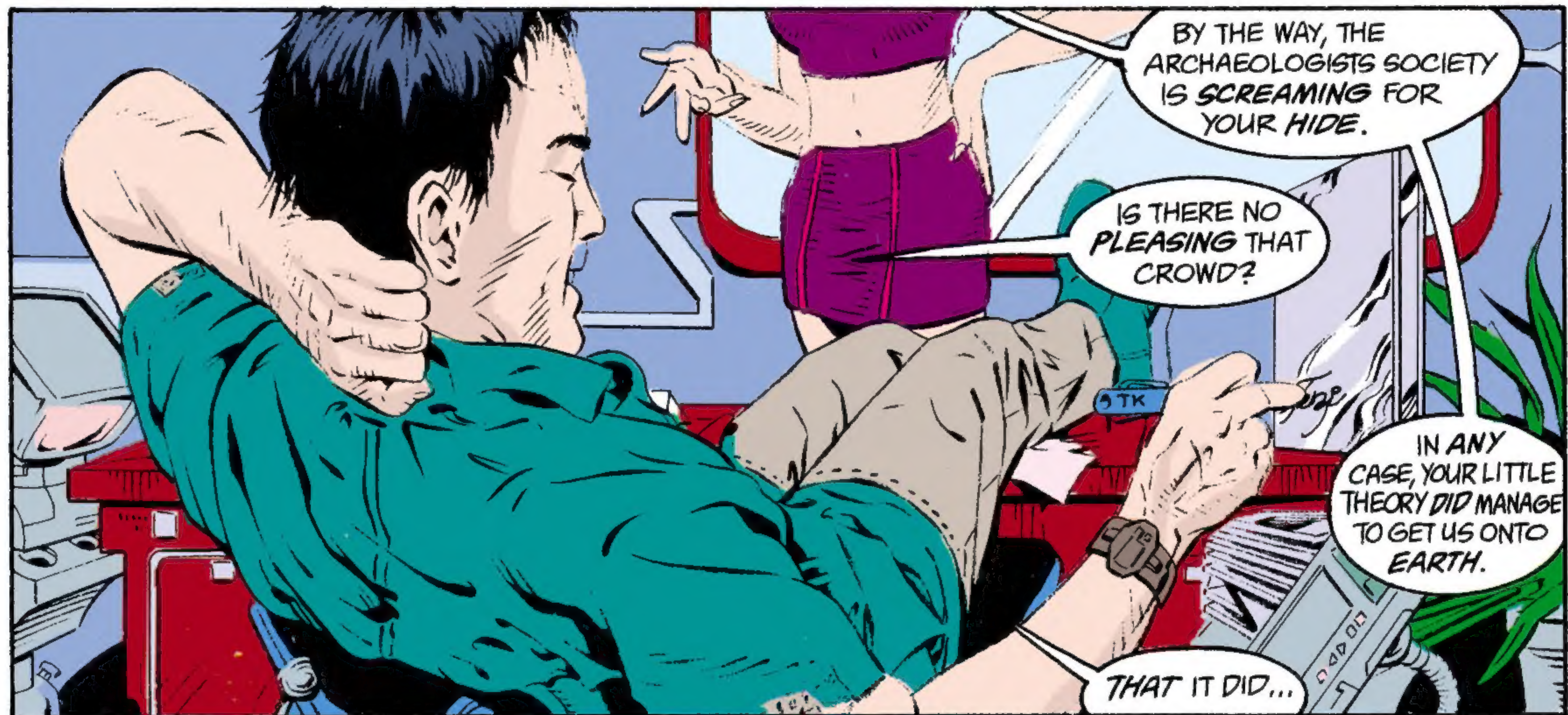


ALSO, YOU'LL
NOTICE YOUR LITTLE
STACK OF DOCUMENTS
STILL HASN'T SIGNED
ITSELF.



OKAY, OKAY... ANY
WORD FROM THE
WINATHIAN
CONTINGENT?

ENCODED. NO
UPDATE ON THE SITUATION
THERE, BUT THEY HAVE
APPROVED OF OPERATION
POPSICLE.

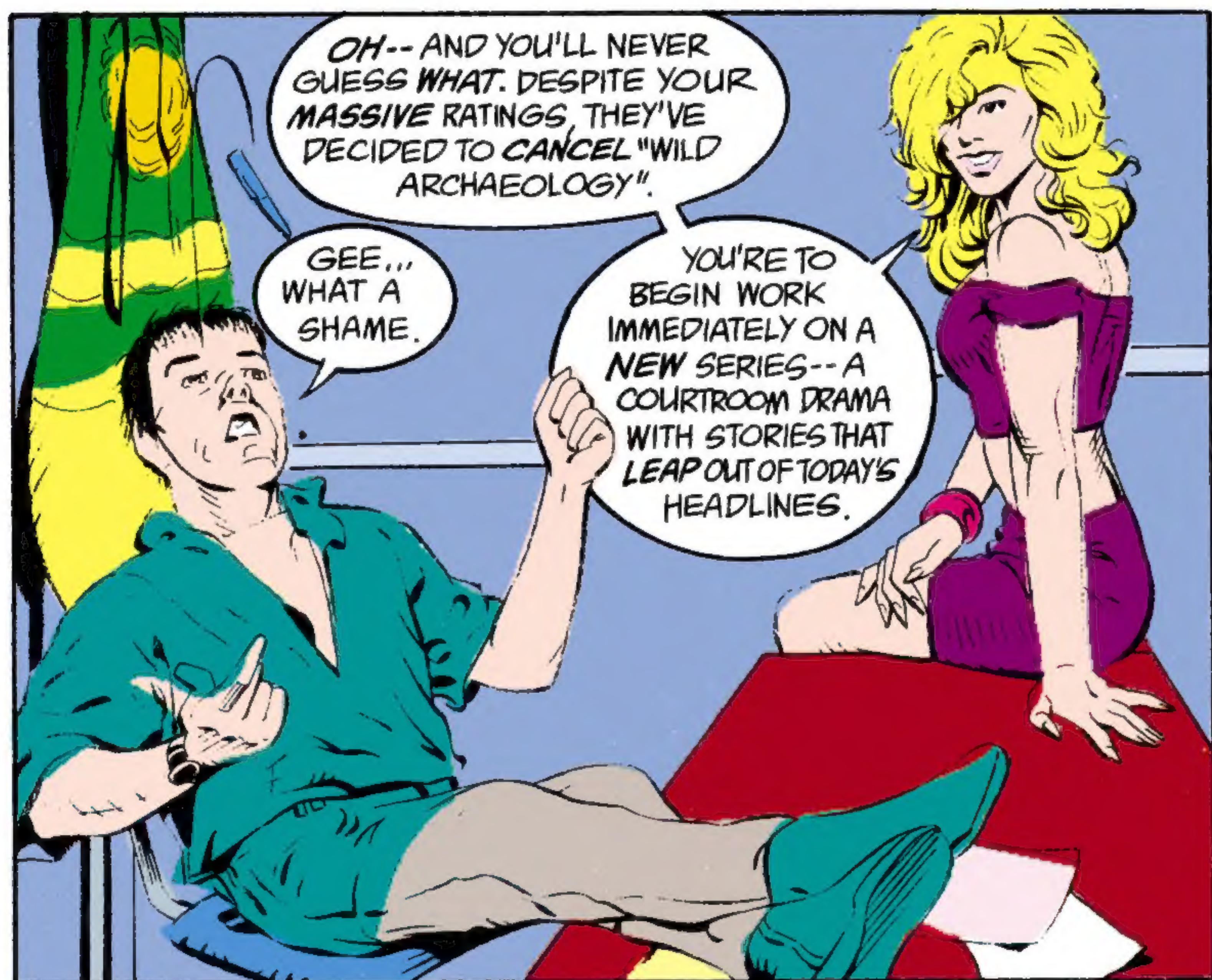


BY THE WAY, THE
ARCHAEOLOGISTS SOCIETY
IS SCREAMING FOR
YOUR HIDE.

IS THERE NO
PLEASING THAT
CROWD?

IN ANY
CASE, YOUR LITTLE
THEORY DID MANAGE
TO GET US ONTO
EARTH.

THAT IT DID...



OH-- AND YOU'LL NEVER
GUESS WHAT. DESPITE YOUR
MASSIVE RATINGS, THEY'VE
DECIDED TO CANCEL "WILD
ARCHAEOLOGY".

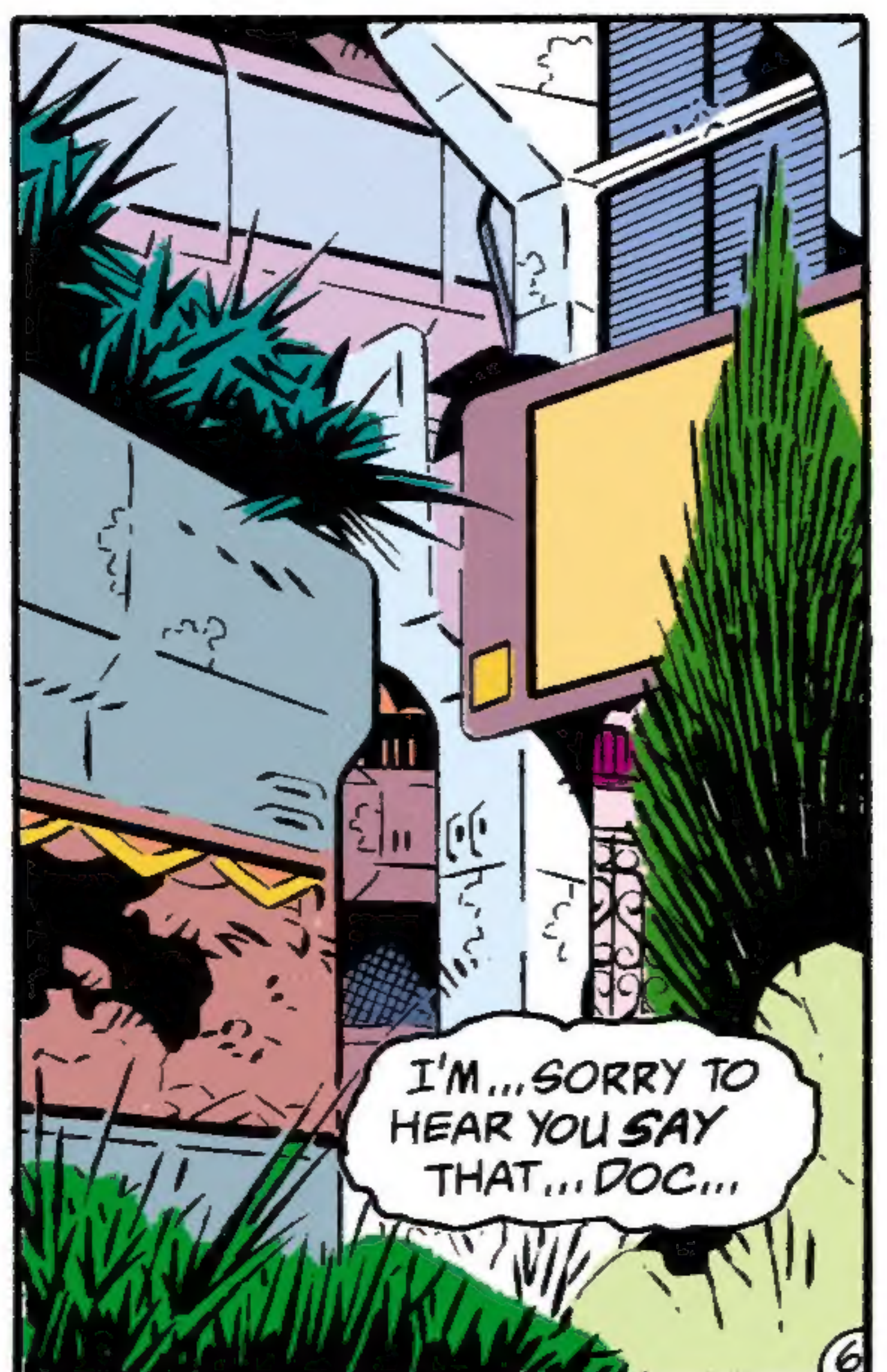
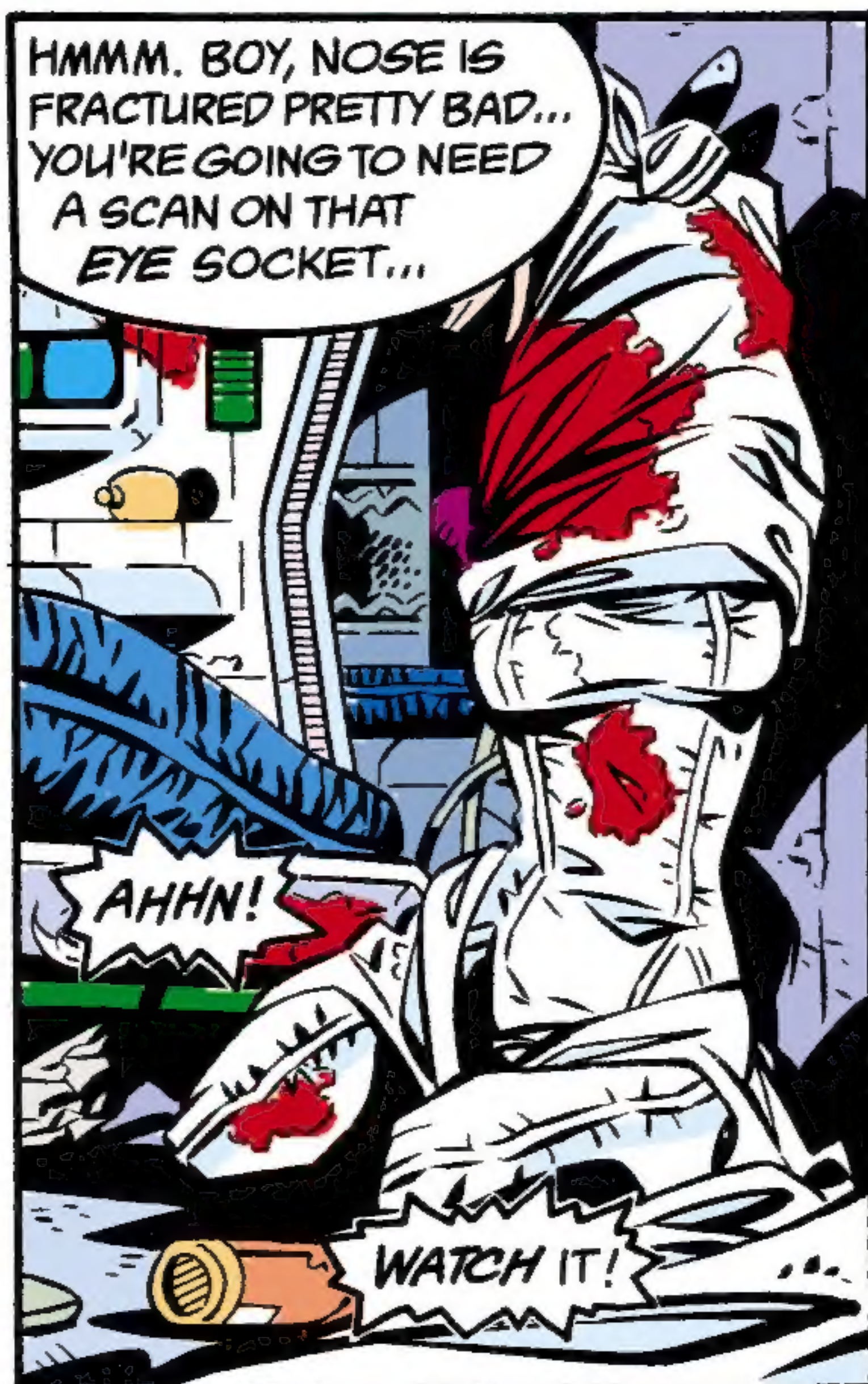
GEE...
WHAT A
SHAME.

YOU'RE TO
BEGIN WORK
IMMEDIATELY ON A
NEW SERIES-- A
COURTROOM DRAMA
WITH STORIES THAT
LEAP OUT OF TODAY'S
HEADLINES.



COURTROOM DRAMA, HUH?

GUESS THAT
MEANS I SHOULD
FIND MYSELF A
CASE.



MEKT RANZZ

Condition: Stable
2nd degree burns over
20% of body
Mild concussion
Right wrist fractured



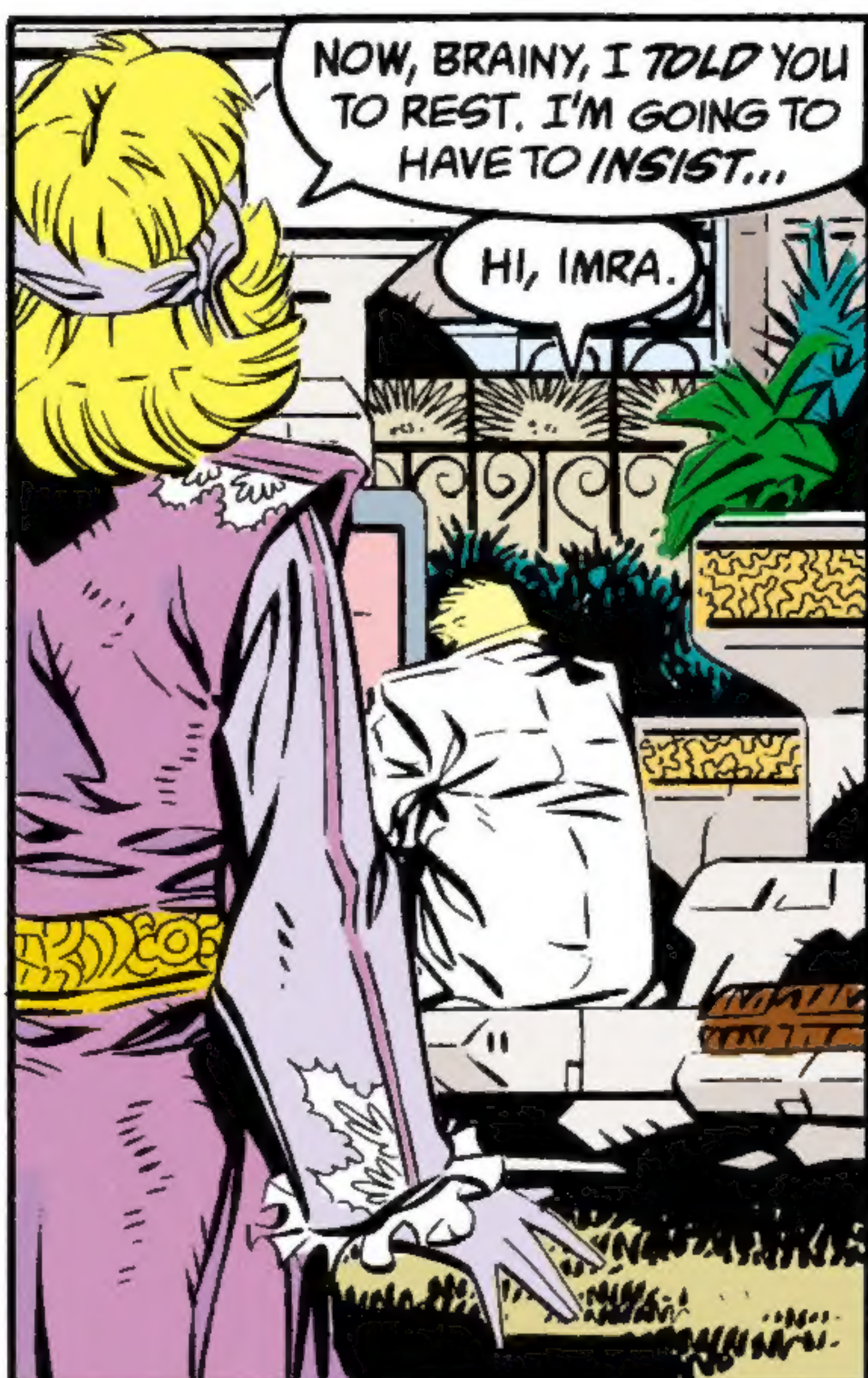
REEP DAGGLE

Condition: Critical
Massive blood loss
Shock
Recovery dependent upon
resumption of shape-
changing functions



BOUNTY

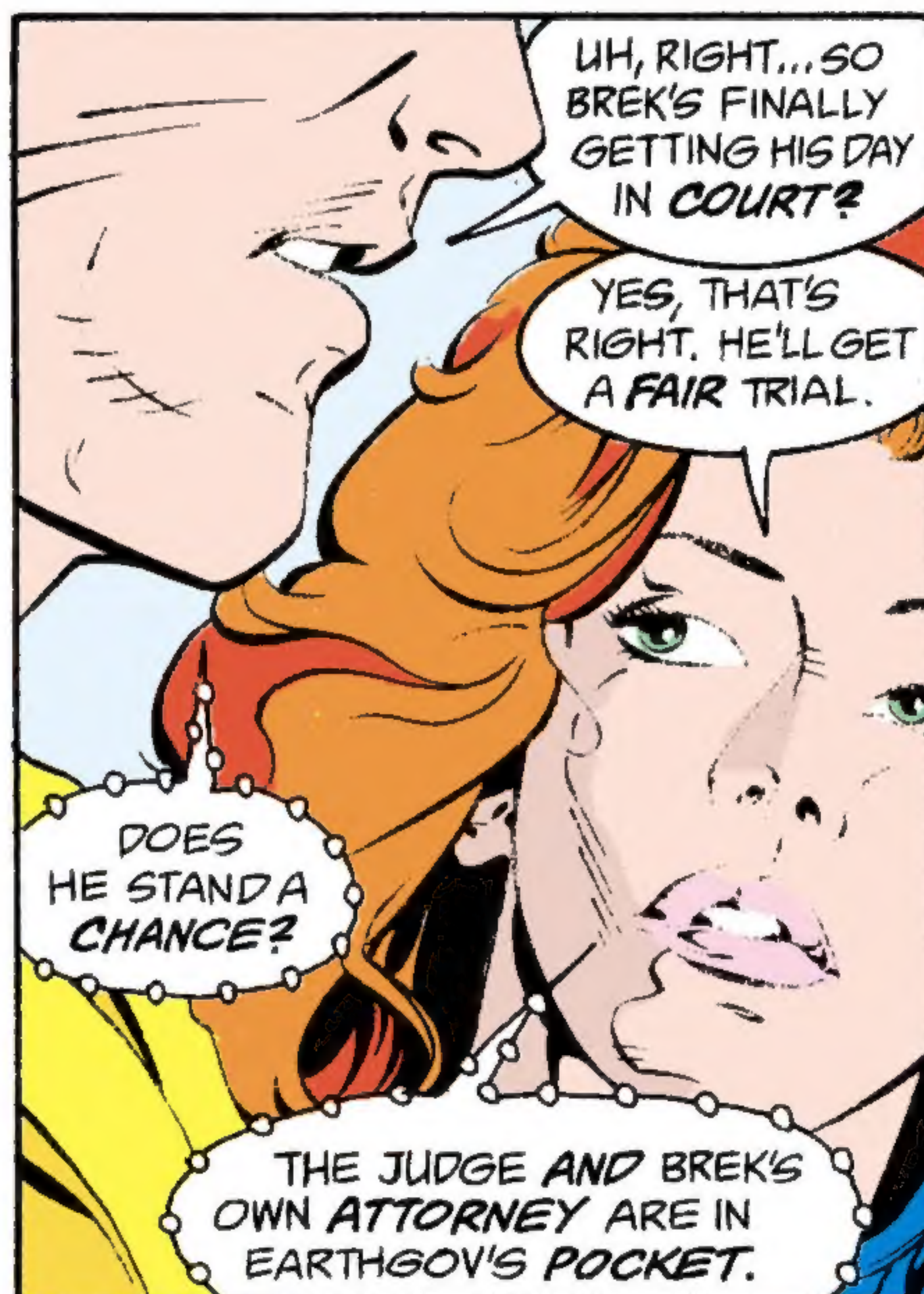
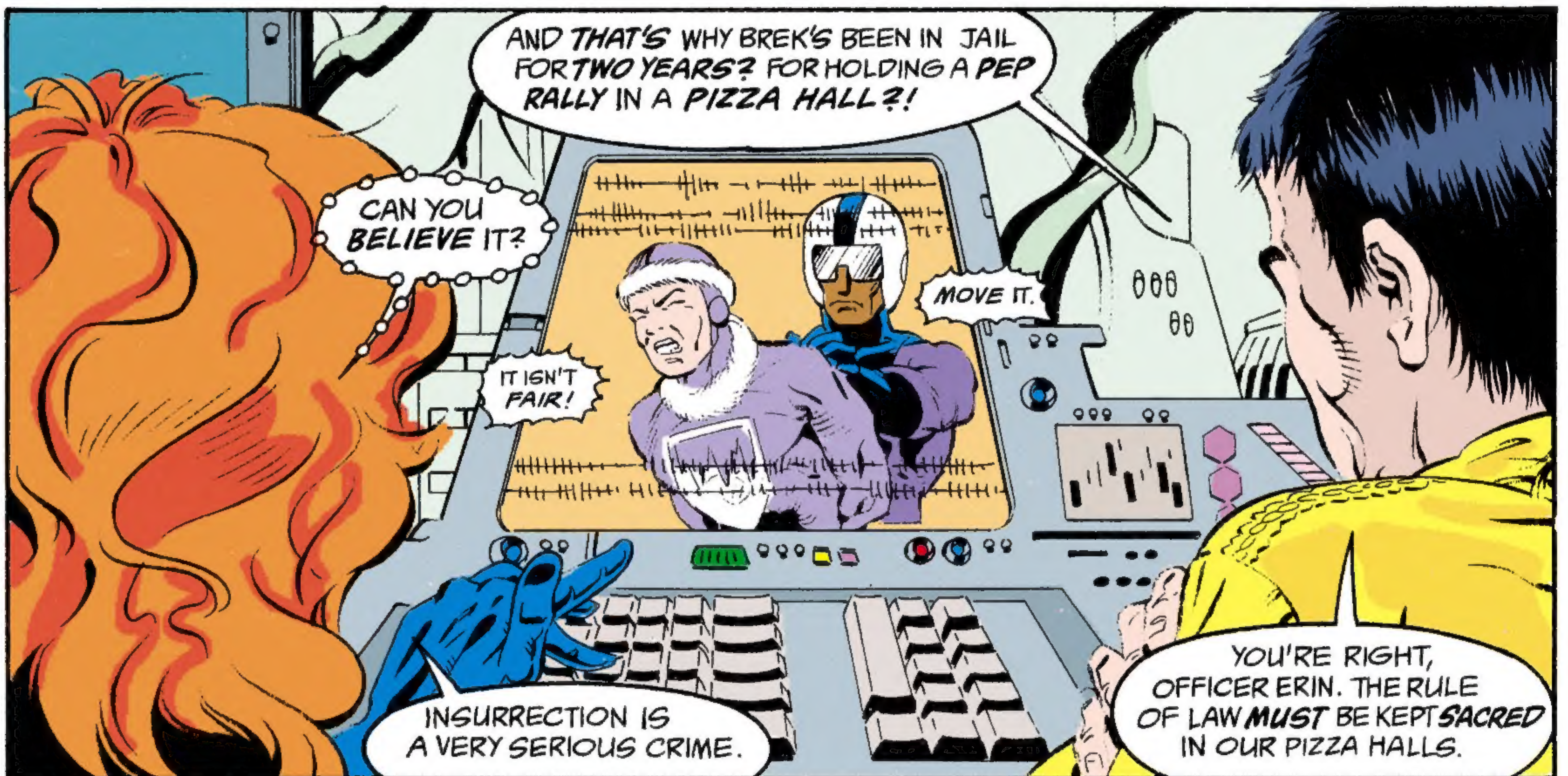
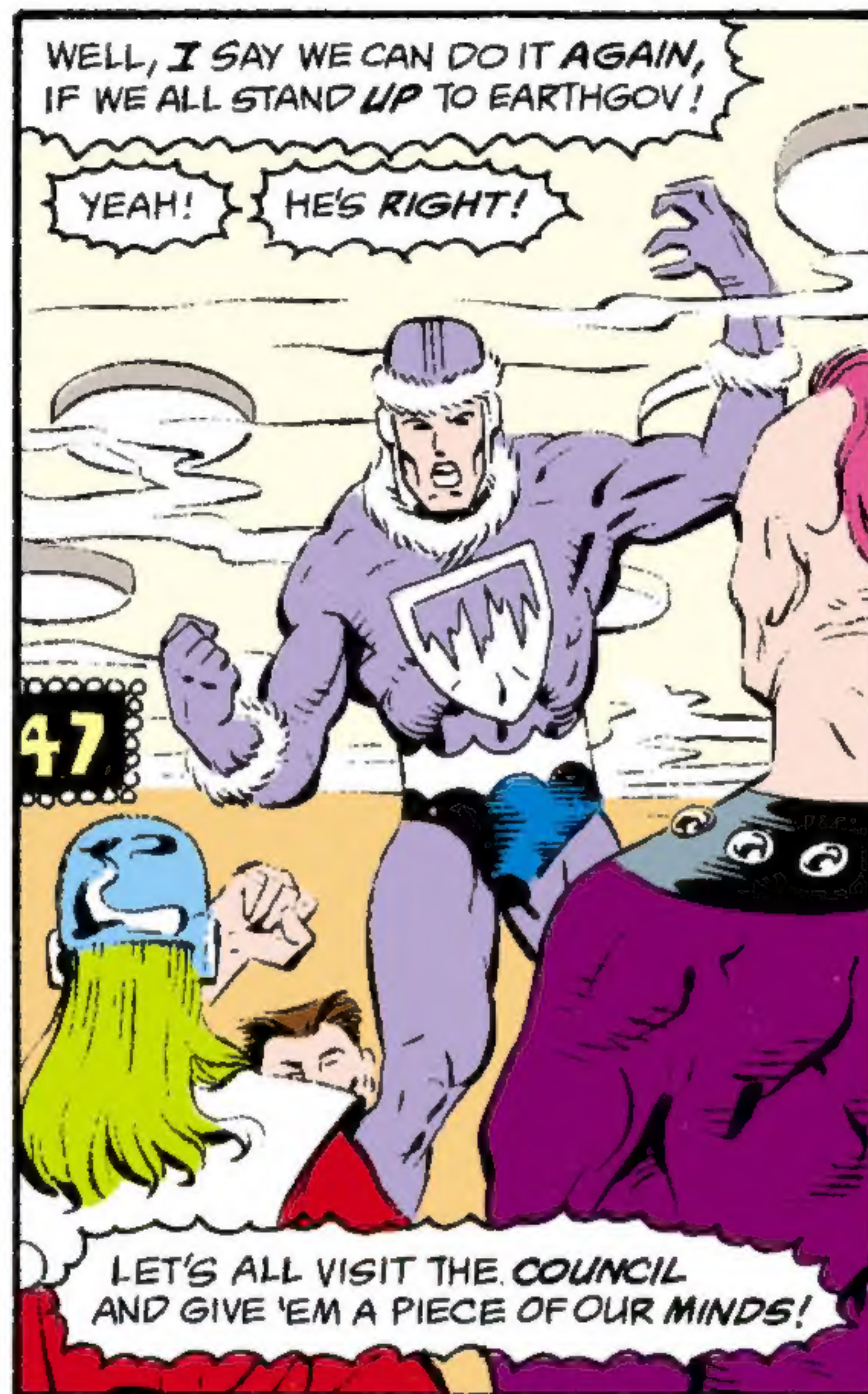
Condition: Stable
Paralysis (believed temporary)
Moderate difficulty breathing
Cardiac arrhythmias subsiding
Unexplained scar tissue
NO KNOWN PATIENT RECORDS

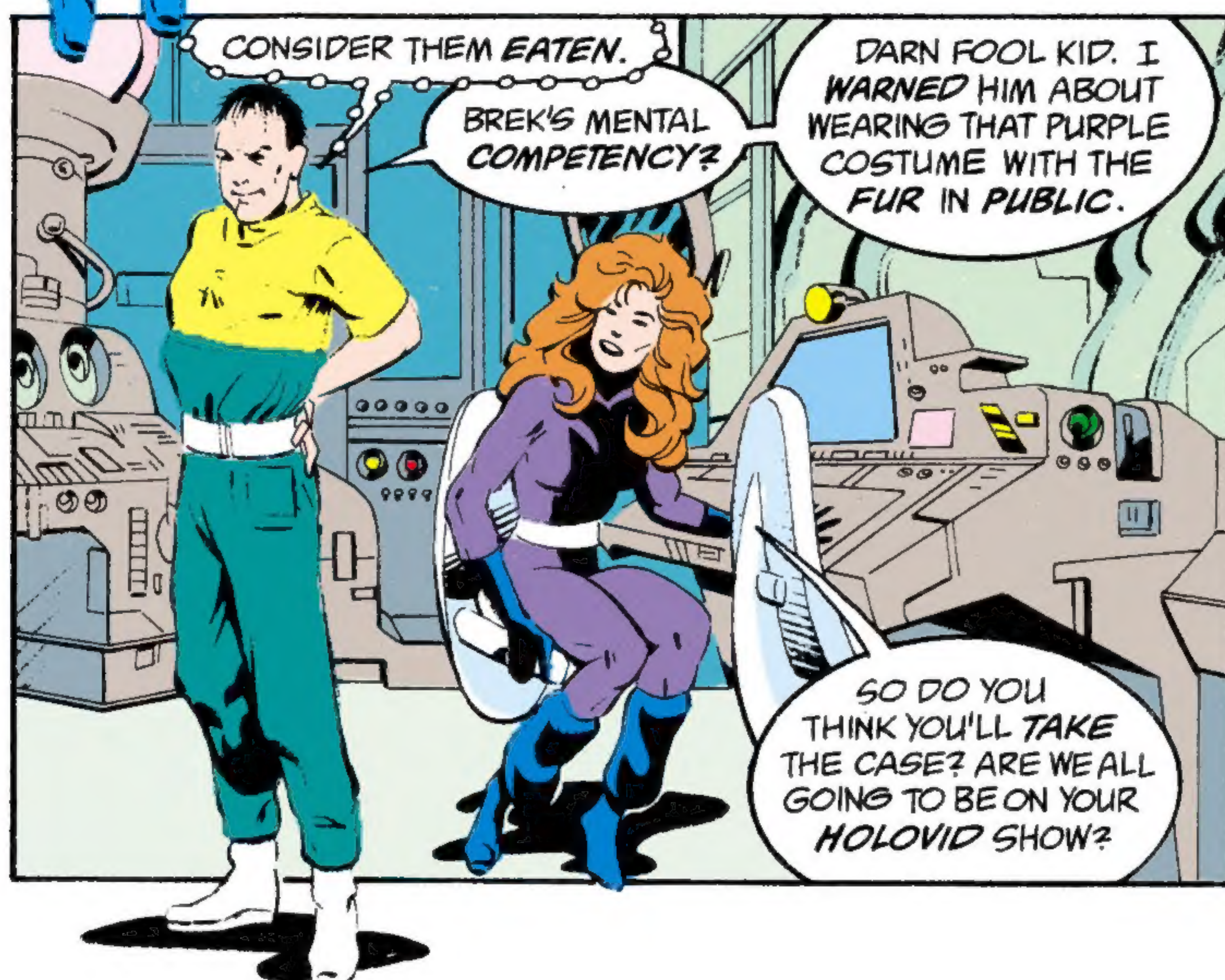
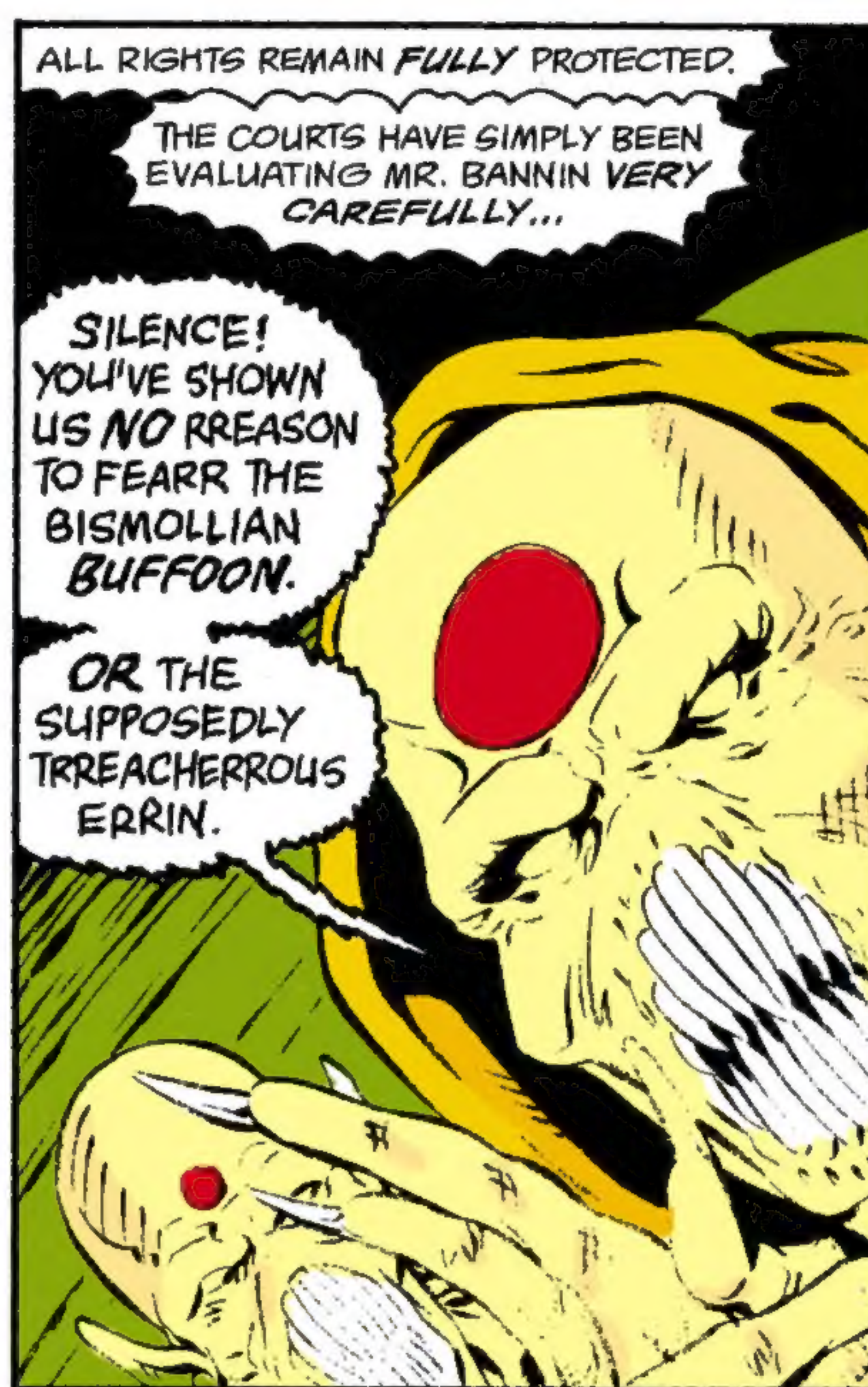
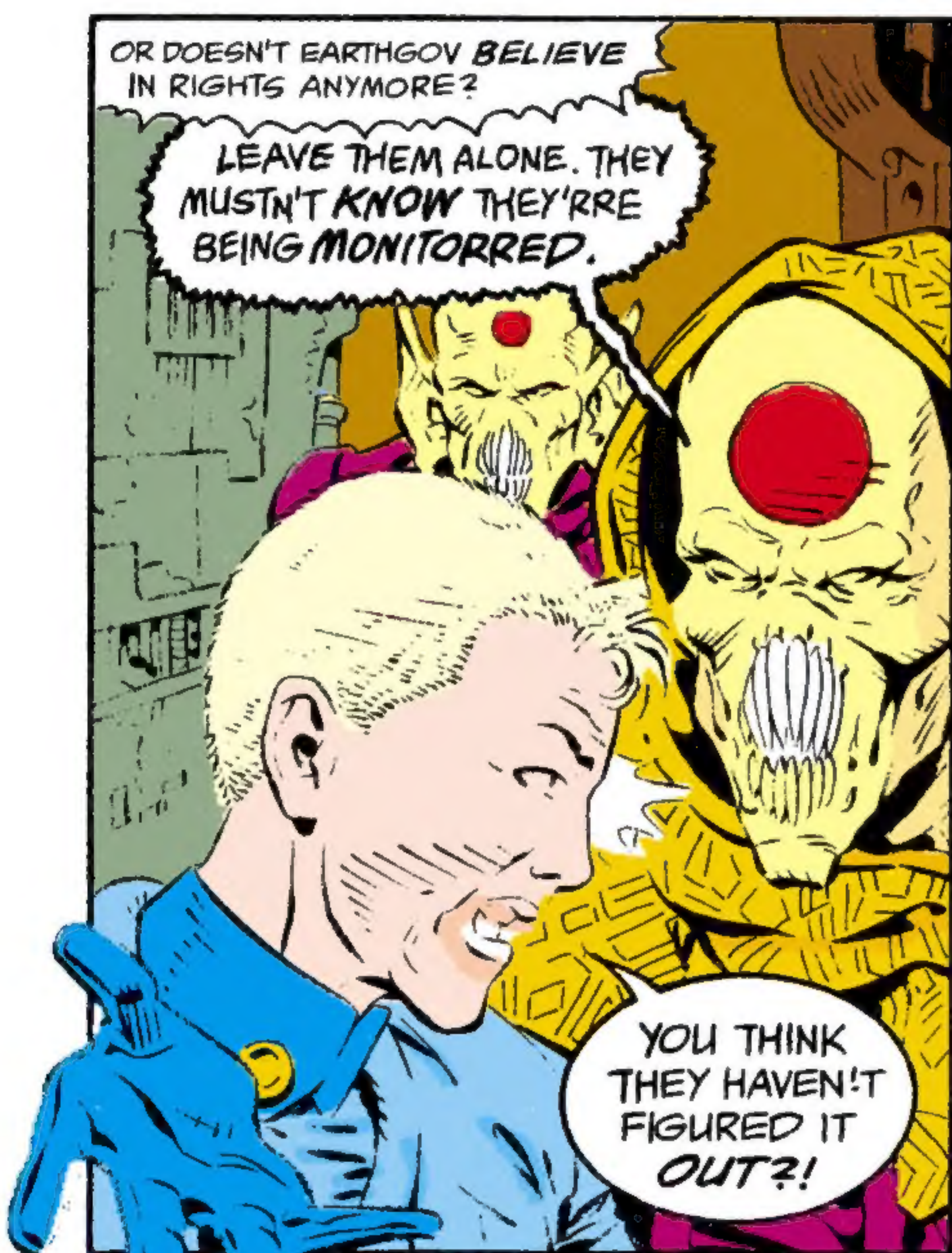


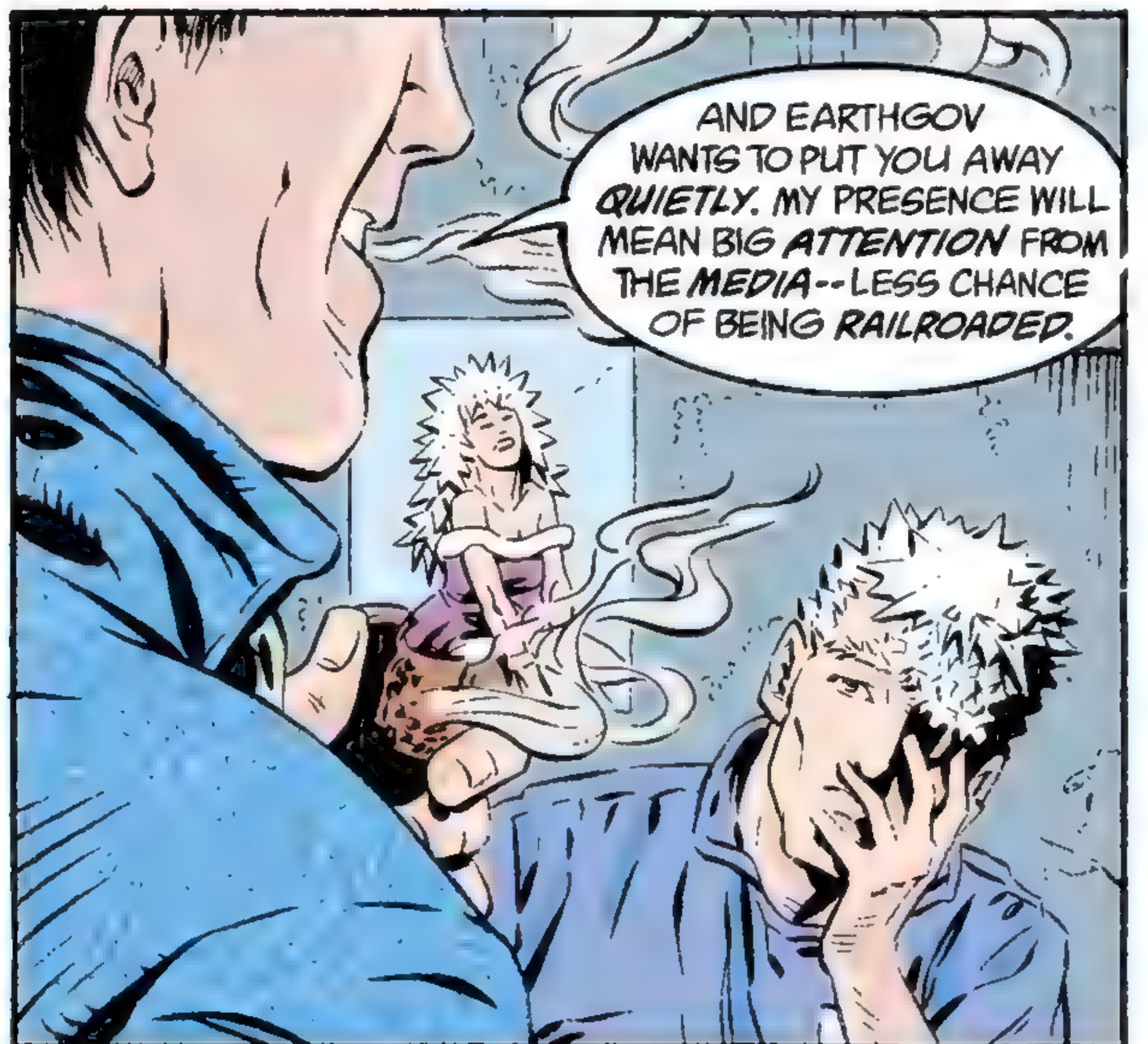
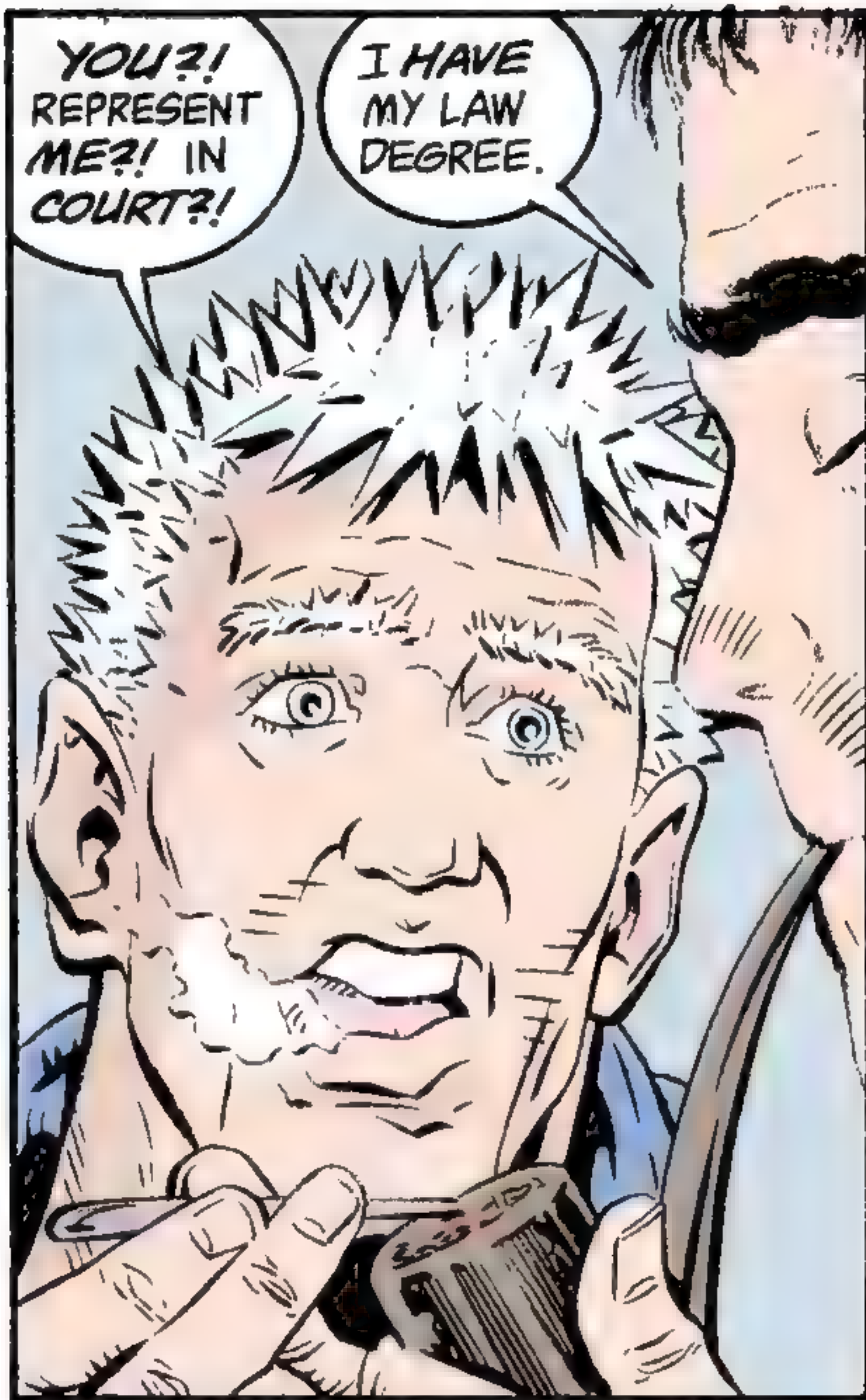
CELESTE ROCKFISH

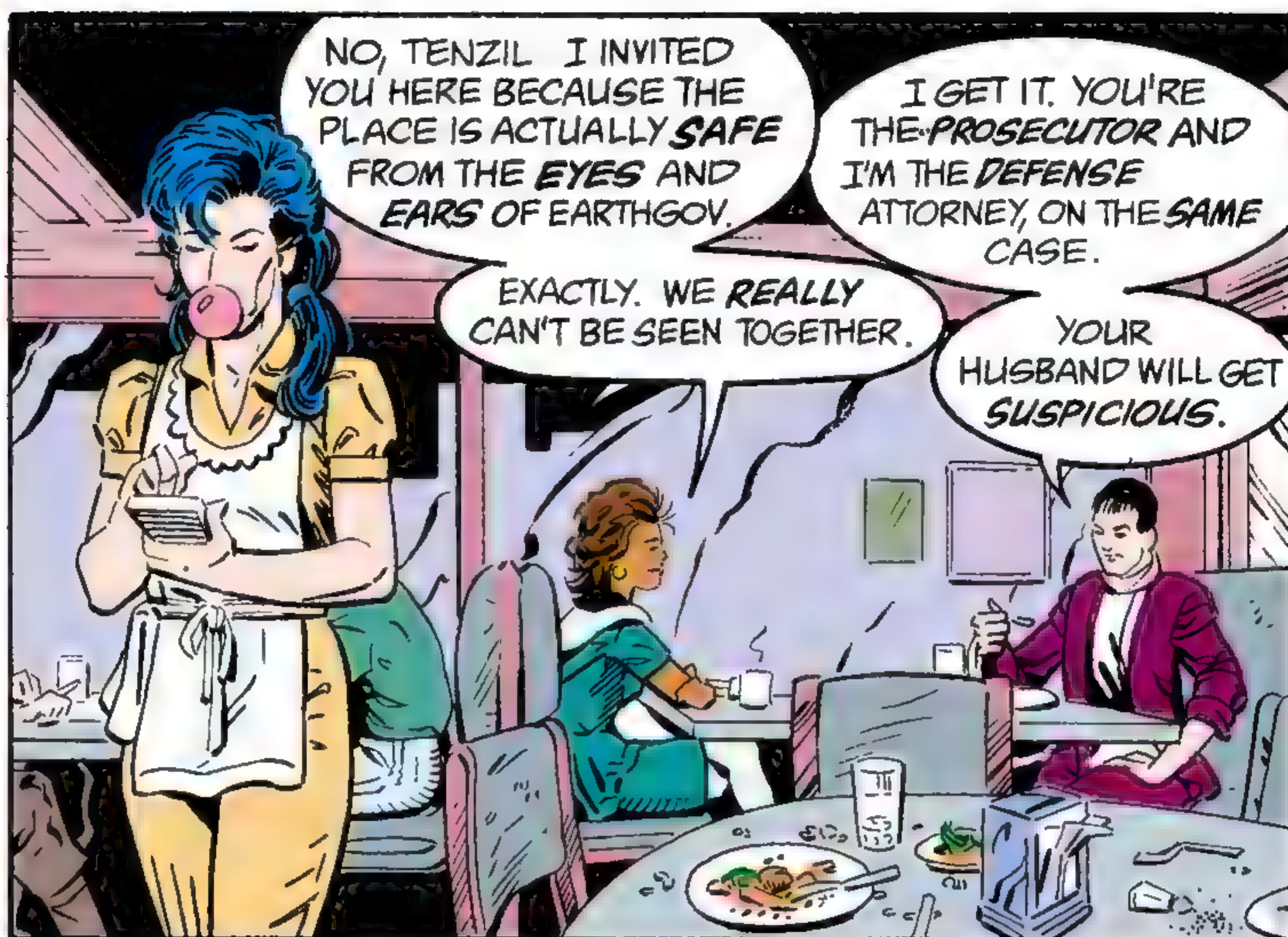
Condition: Extremely Grave
Severe cerebral lacerations
and contusions
NOTE: Widespread cerebral
hemorrhaging
Multiple skull fractures
Five broken ribs
Collapsed right lung
Massive internal hemorrhaging
NO KNOWN PATIENT RECORDS



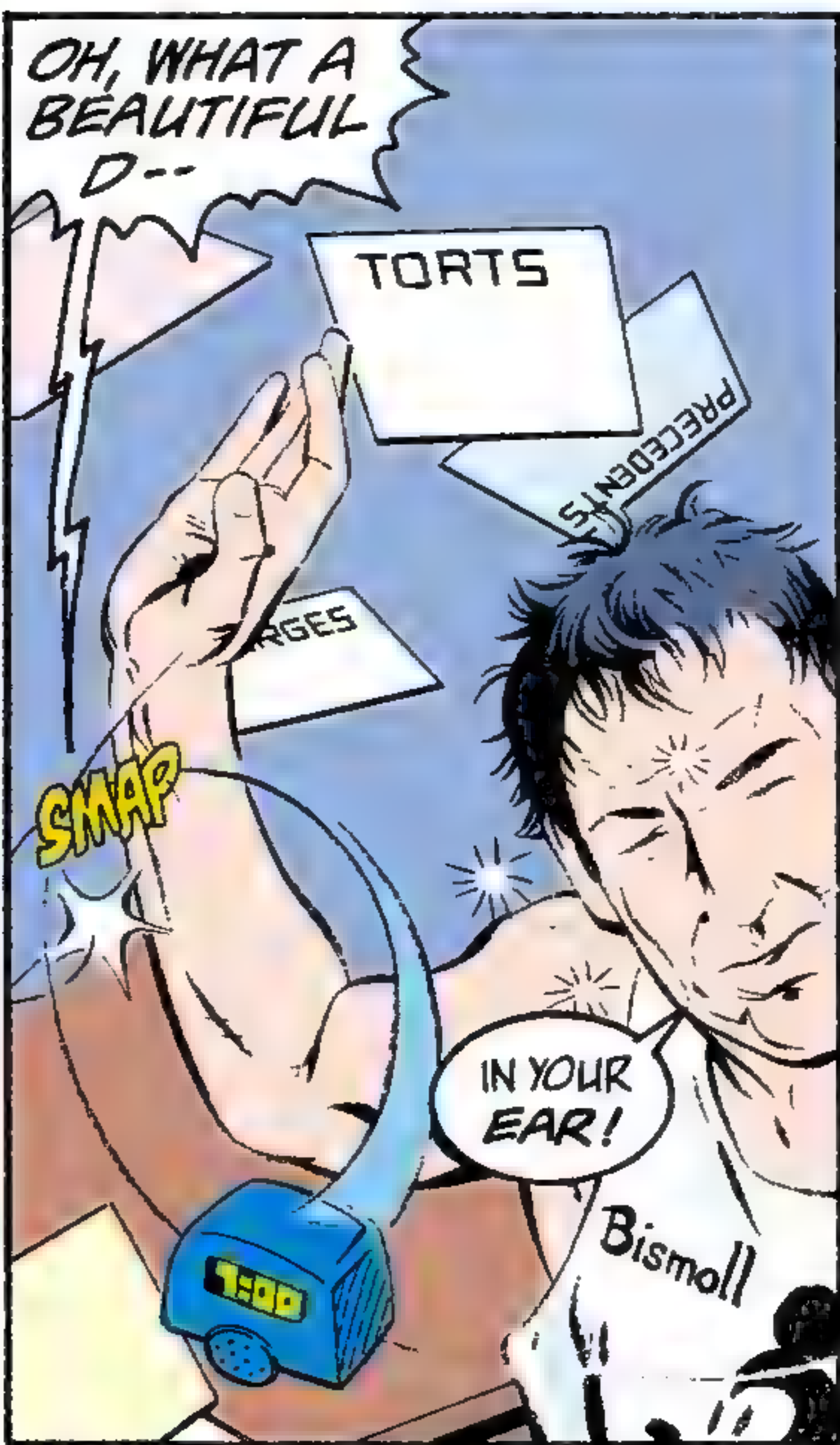
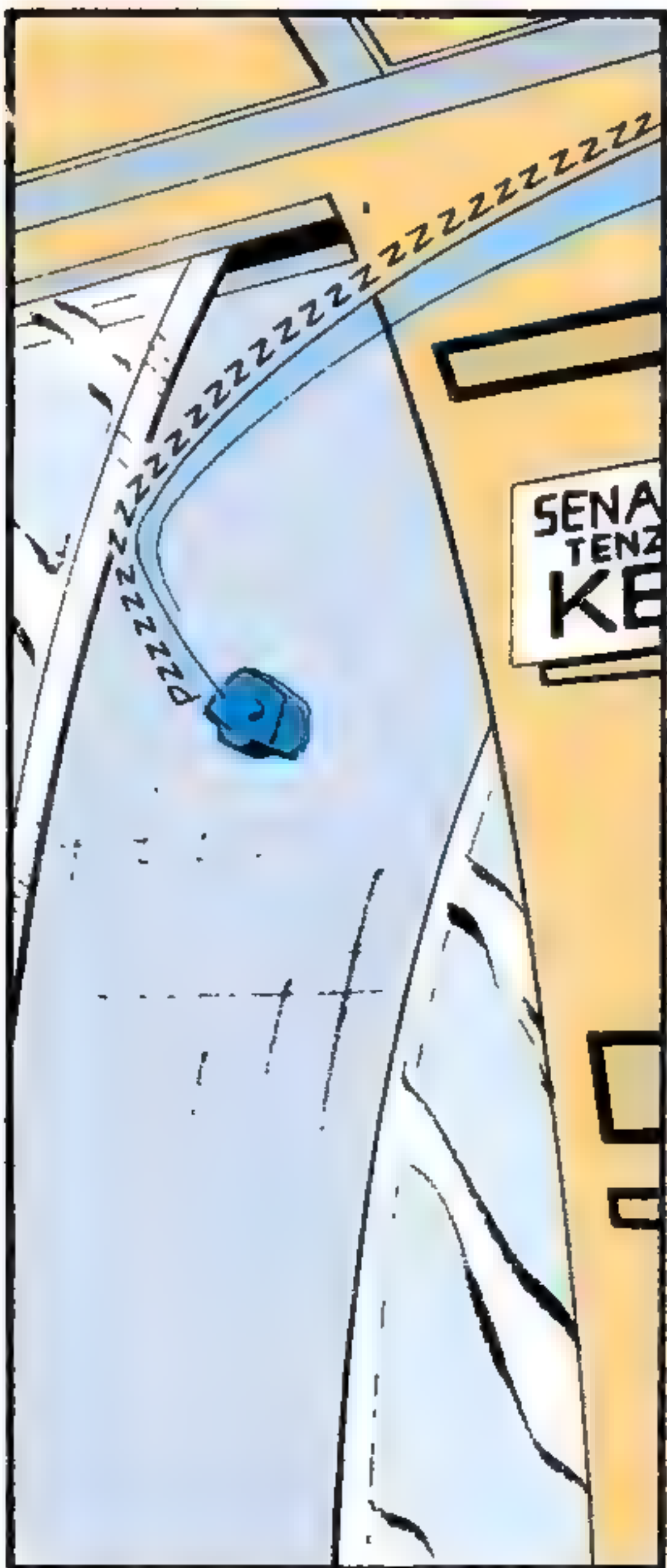












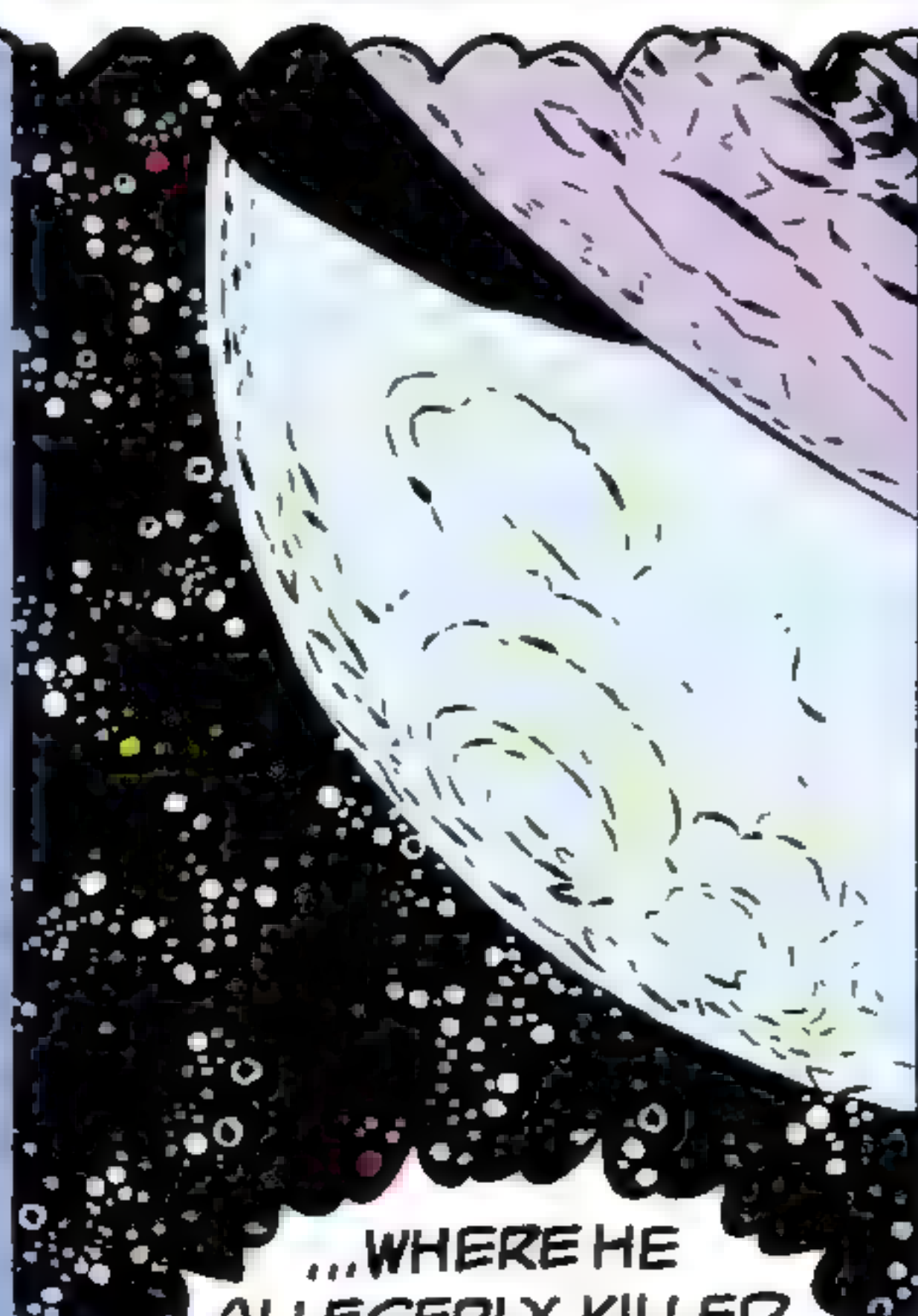
UPV CHANNEL 4 NEWS BULLETIN

WE INTERRUPT
THIS PROGRAM FOR
THE FOLLOWING
NEWS BULLETIN...

SCIENCE POLICE WINATH REPORTS
ROXXAS THE BUTCHER IS STILL AT
LARGE, AND HE'S APPARENTLY
STRUCK AGAIN.



THE FRANTIC MANHUNT FOR THE
SUSPECTED KILLER CONTINUES AFTER
HIS BRUTAL ATTACK YESTERDAY ON
THE LIGHTNING RING PLANTATION...



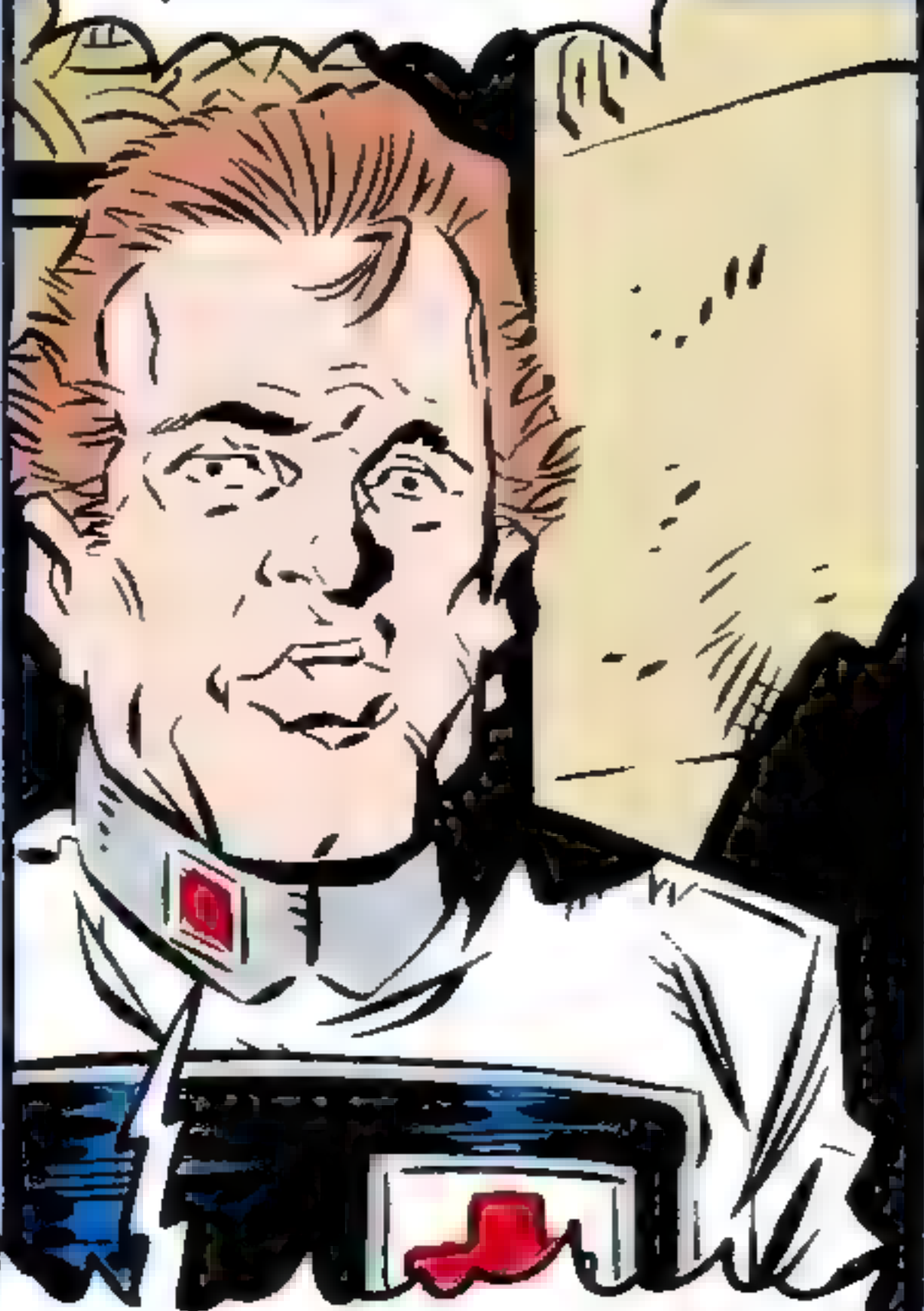
...WHERE HE
ALLEGEDLY KILLED
AT LEAST ONE EX-
LEGIONNAIRE.

AUTHORITIES NOW BELIEVE THE
SUSPECTED KILLER FLED TO THIS
CLINIC IN THAT PLANET'S
BLOOMFIELD DISTRICT.



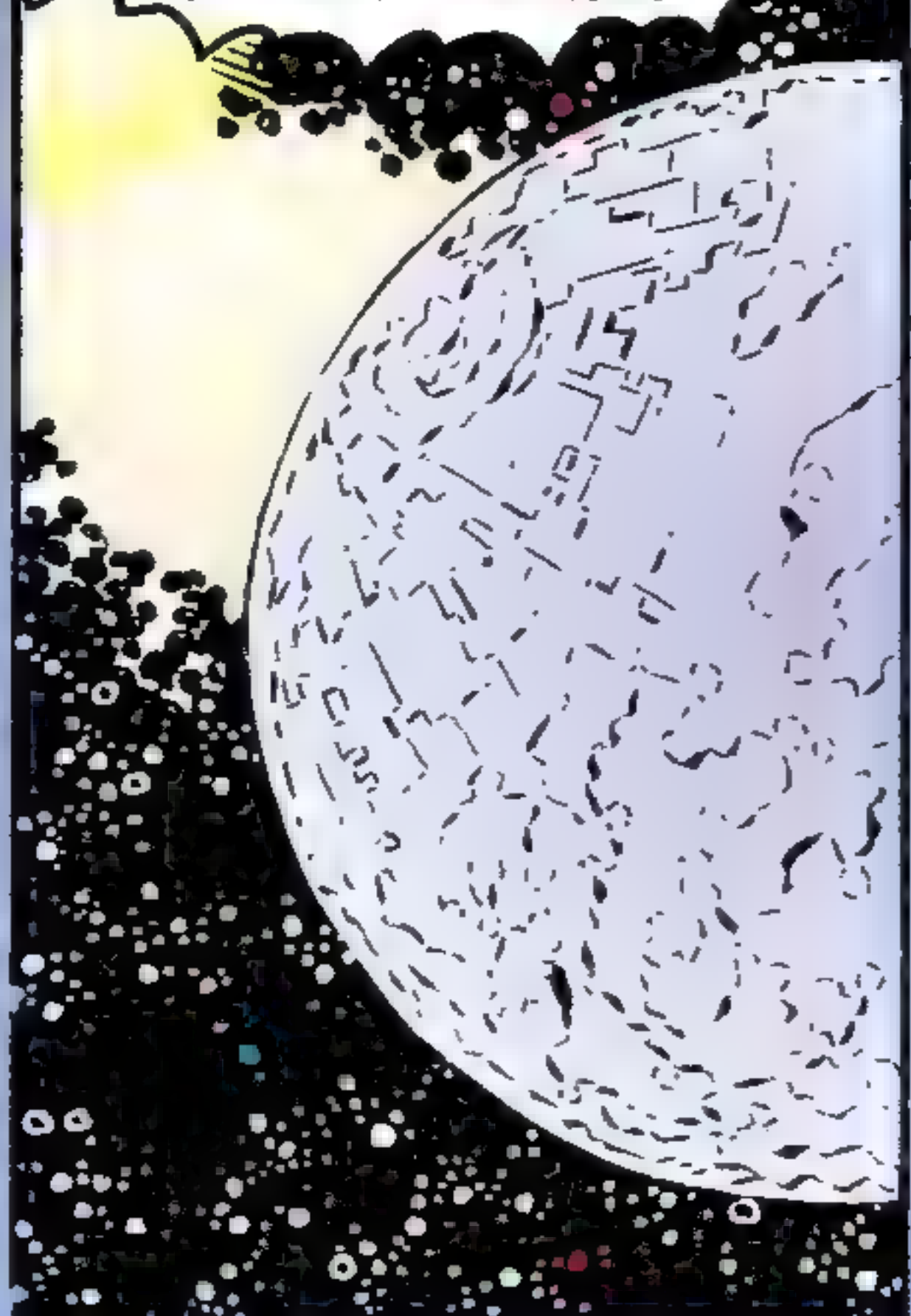
A DOCTOR AND
A NURSE WERE
FOUND MURDERED
THERE THIS MORNING.

DR. AYDON JEKS FOUND
THE BODIES...

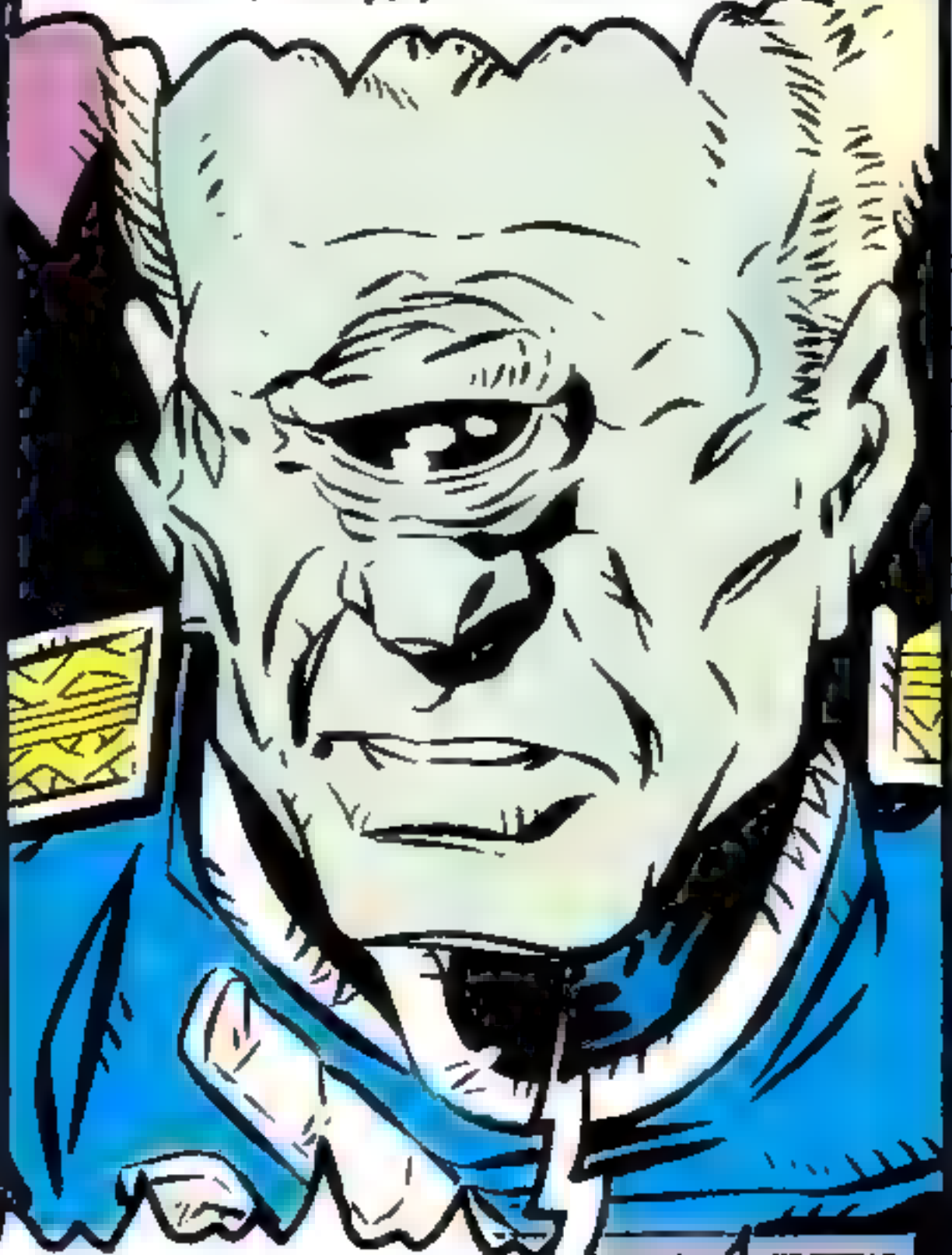


IT WAS JUST AWFUL. THEY'D
BEEN JUST REALLY BRUTALIZED.
ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS...
YOU KNOW... IT COULD'VE
BEEN ME!

ROXXAS IS SUSPECTED OF
LEAVING A TRAIL OF BODIES SINCE
HIS UNEXPLAINED RELEASE EARLIER
THIS YEAR FROM LABYRINTH, THE
PRISON PLANET.



UPV CHANNEL 4 RECENTLY
INTERVIEWED WARDEN TSAQUIN
ON THE MATTER...



I HAVE NEVER SO
STRENUOUSLY OBJECTED TO A
RELEASE IN MY LIFE. WHOEVER
ENGINEERED IT IS CRAZIER
THAN ROXXAS.

ROXXAS IS NOW SUSPECTED
OF SOME THREE DOZEN
RECENT MURDERS...

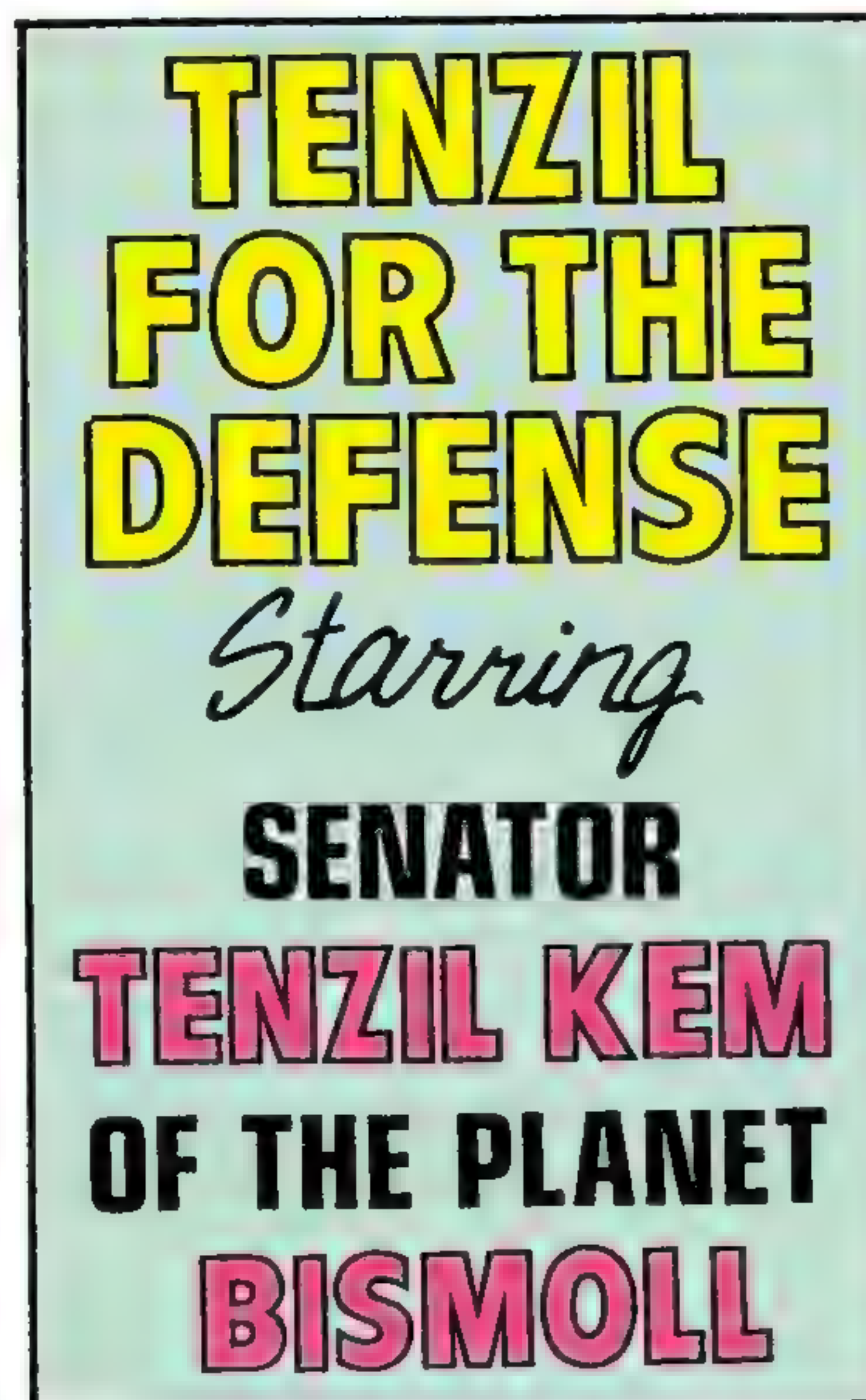
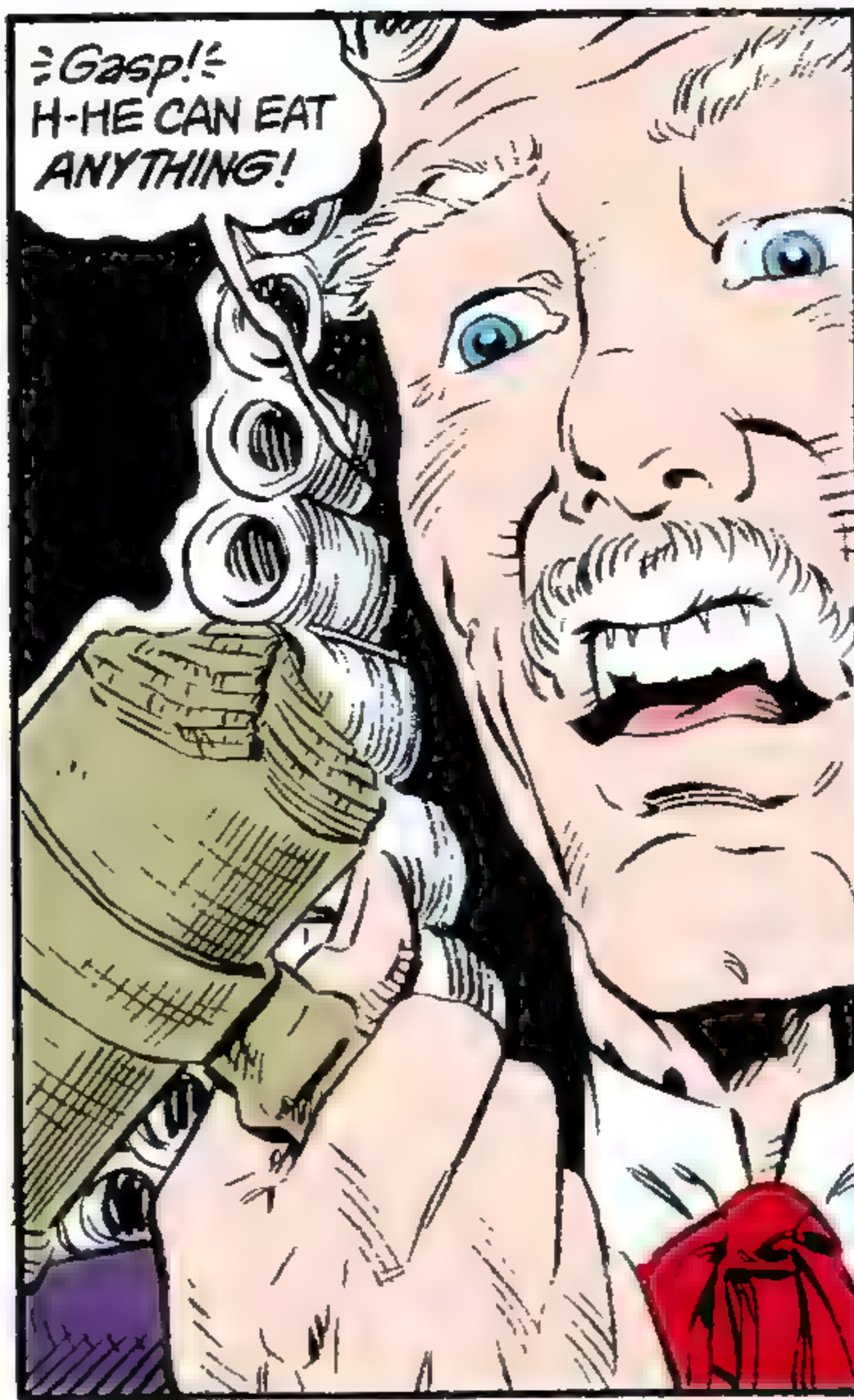


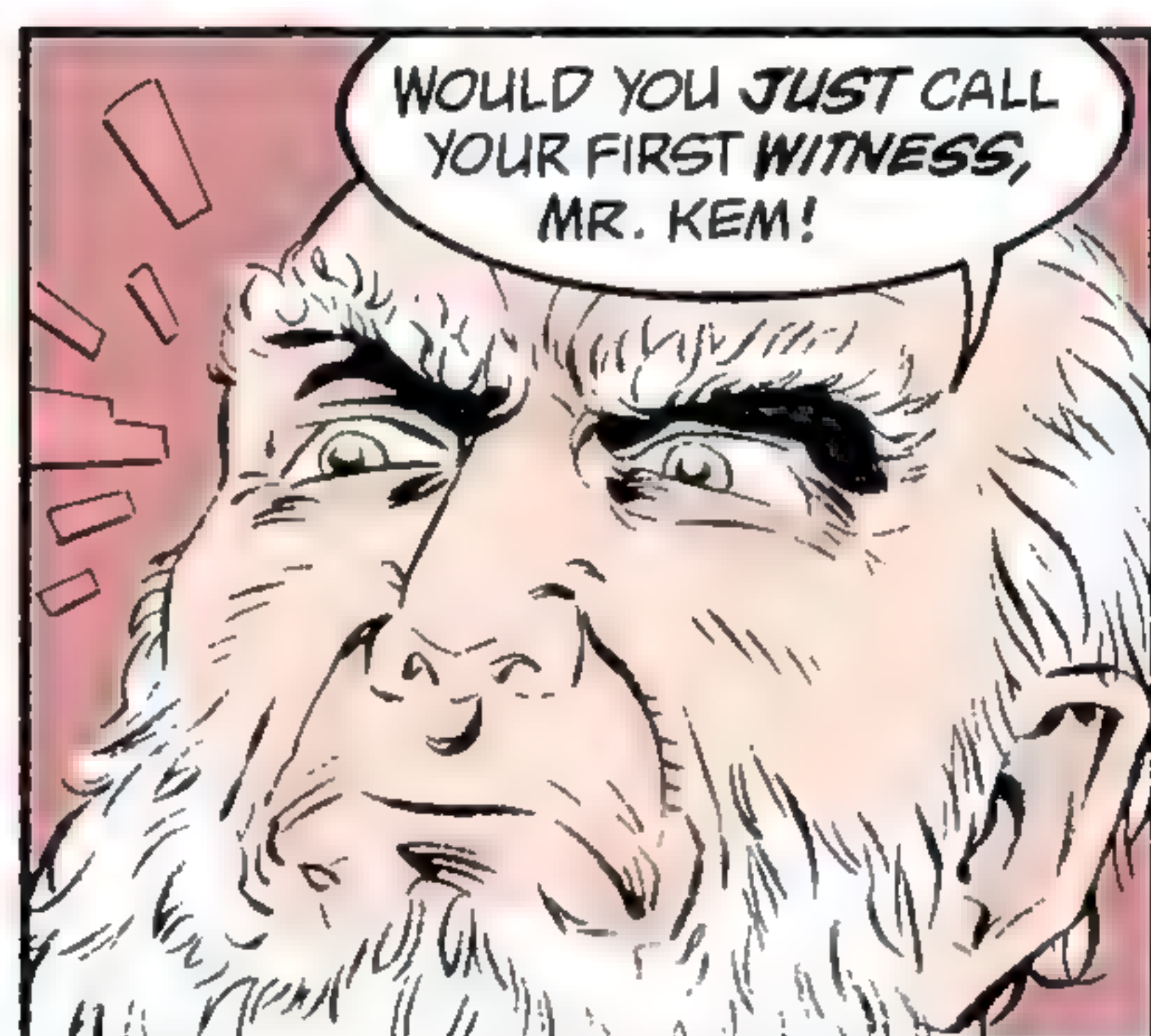
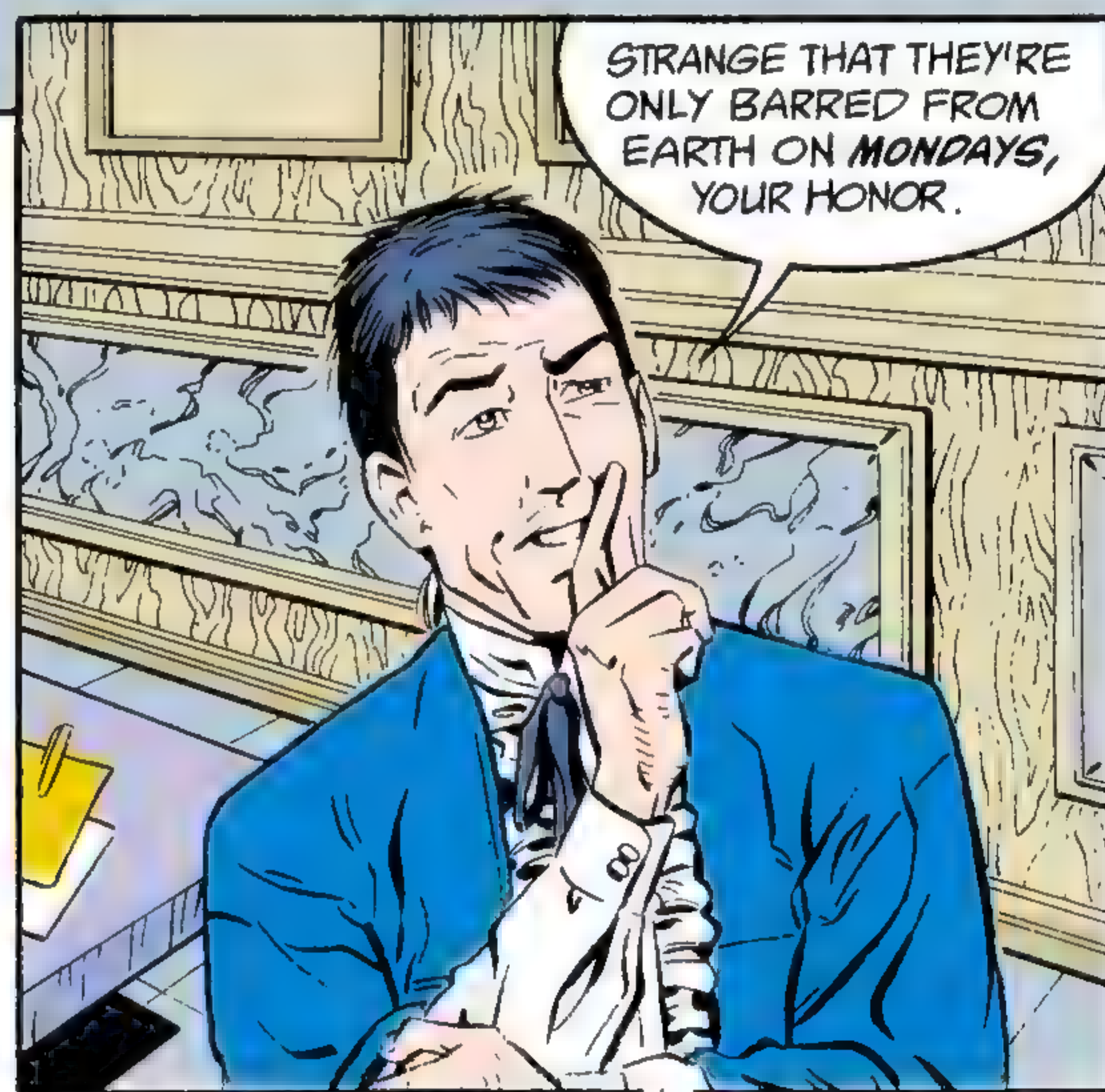
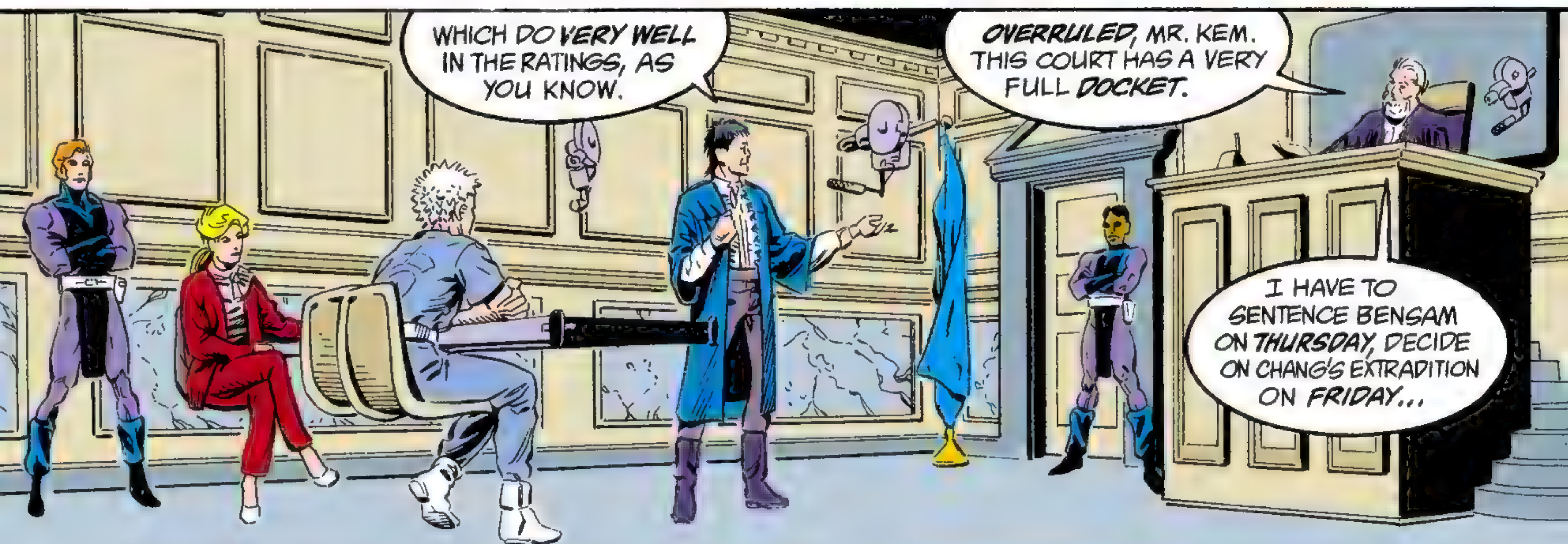
...INCLUDING THOSE
OF FORMER LEGIONNAIRES
BLOK AND JO NAH.

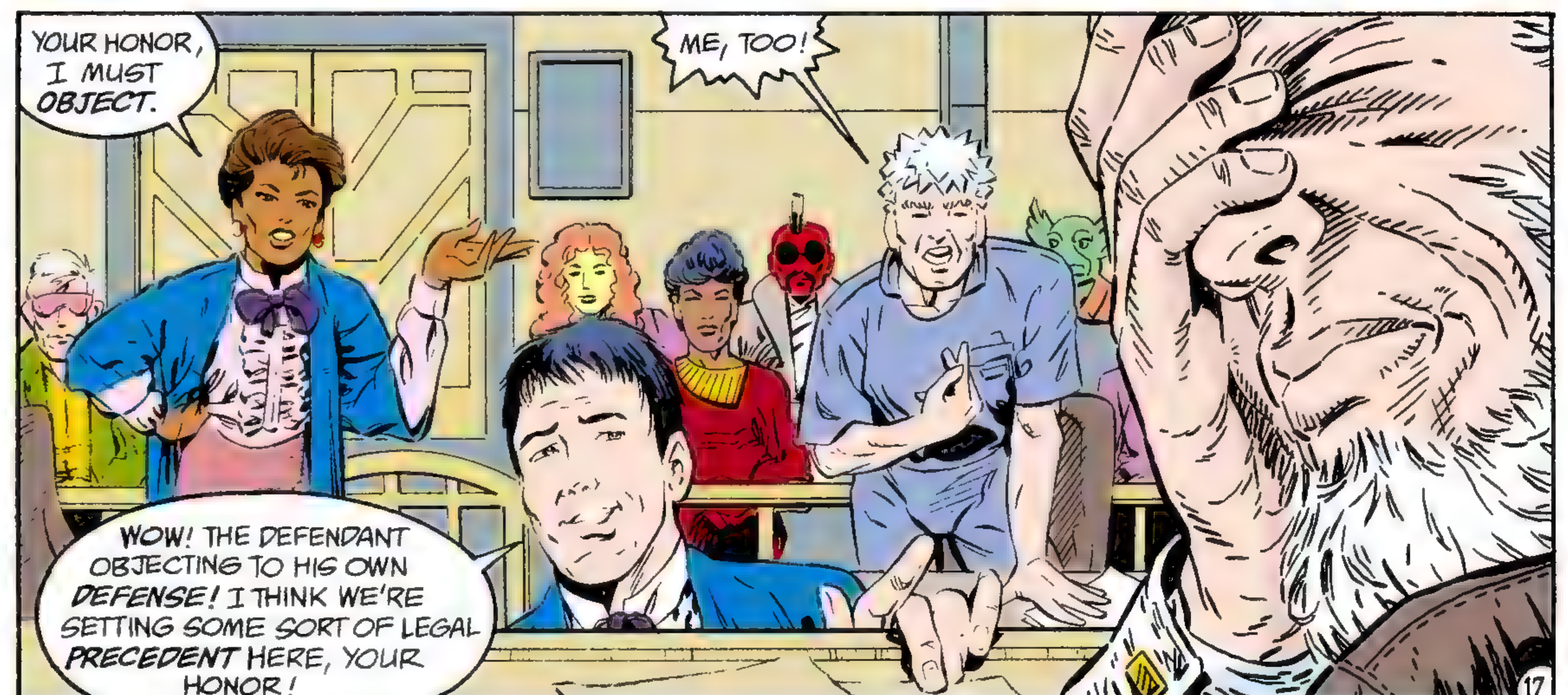
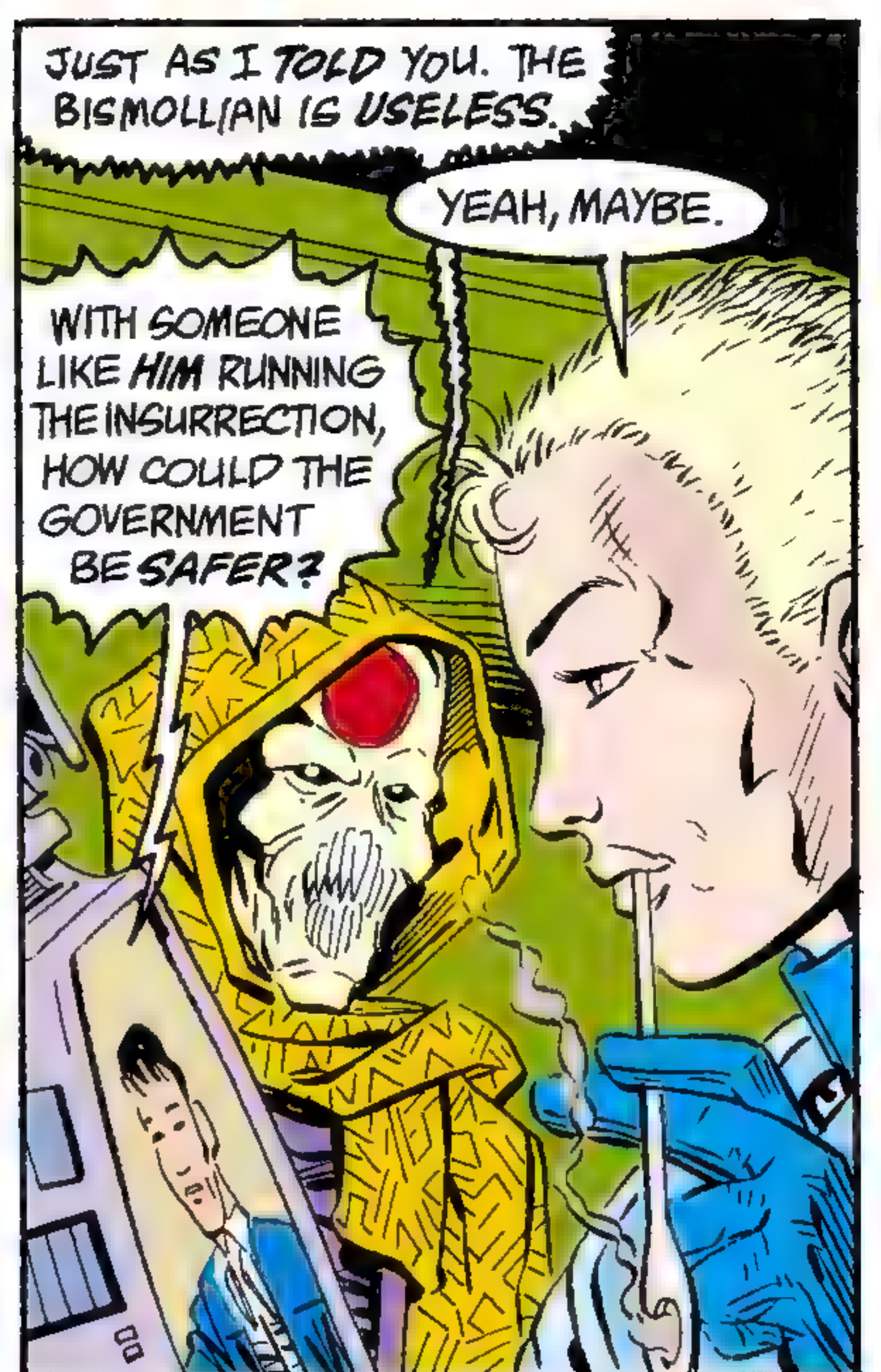
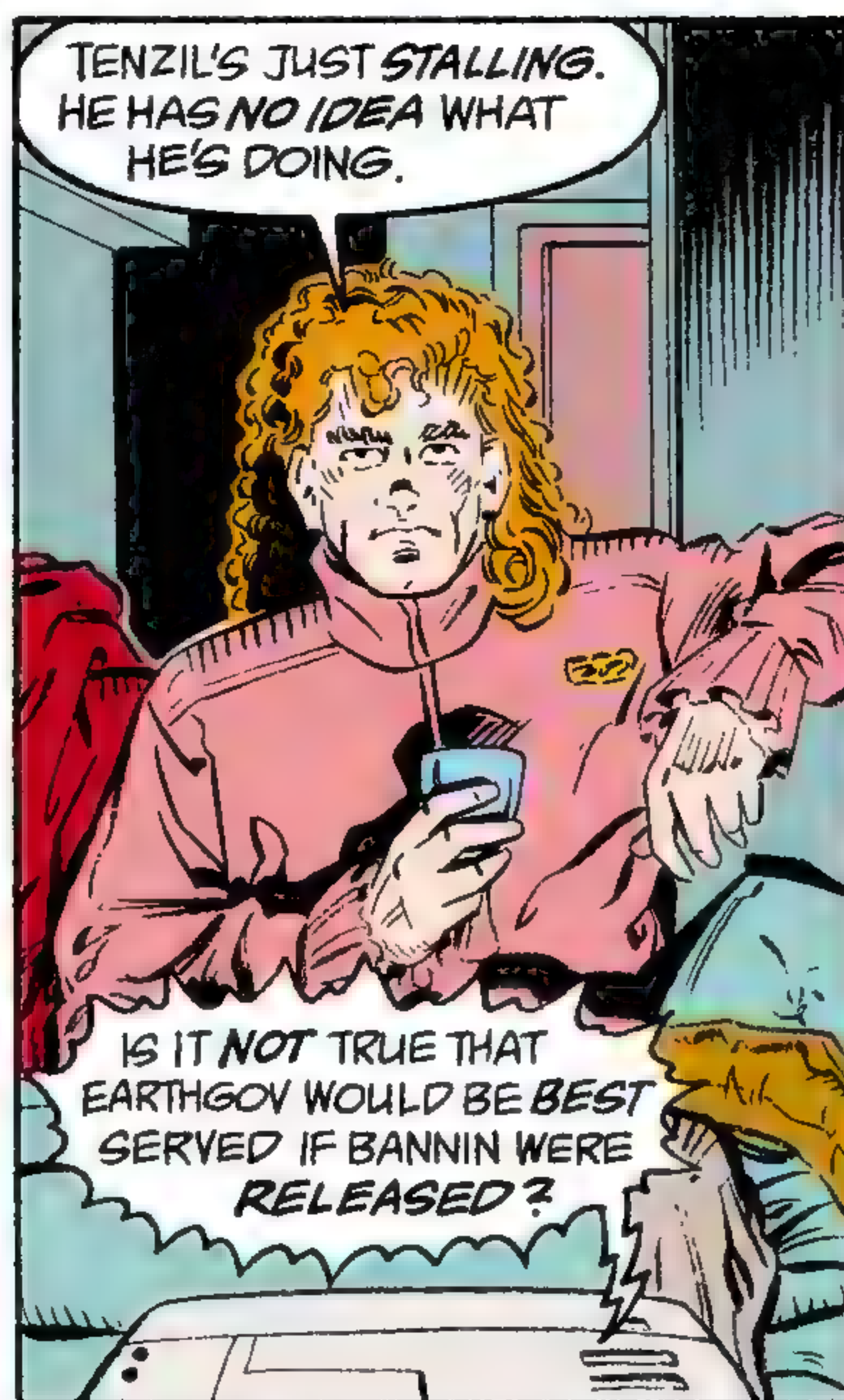
STAY TUNED TO UPV
CHANNEL 4 FOR UPDATES
AS THEY OCCUR.

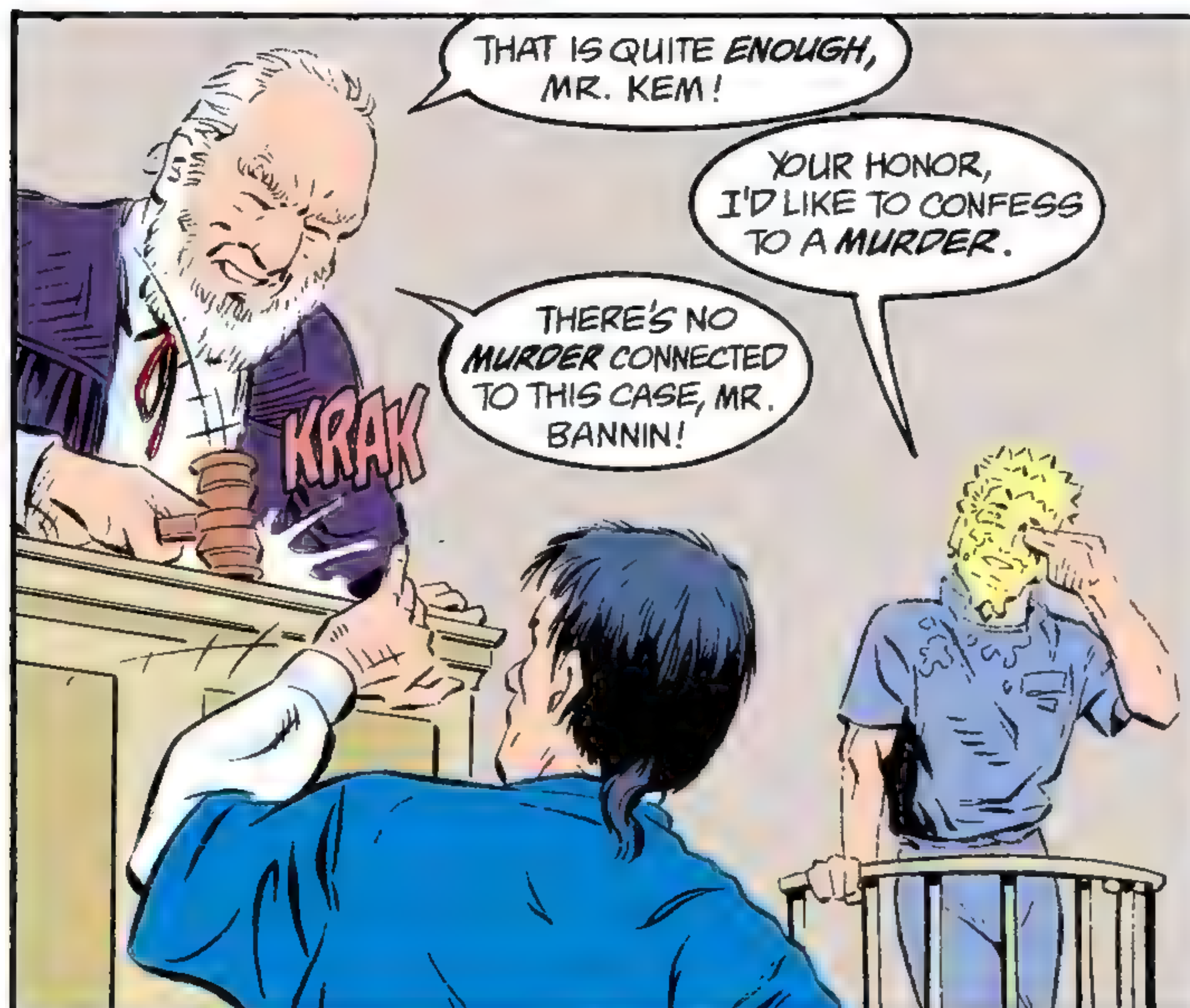
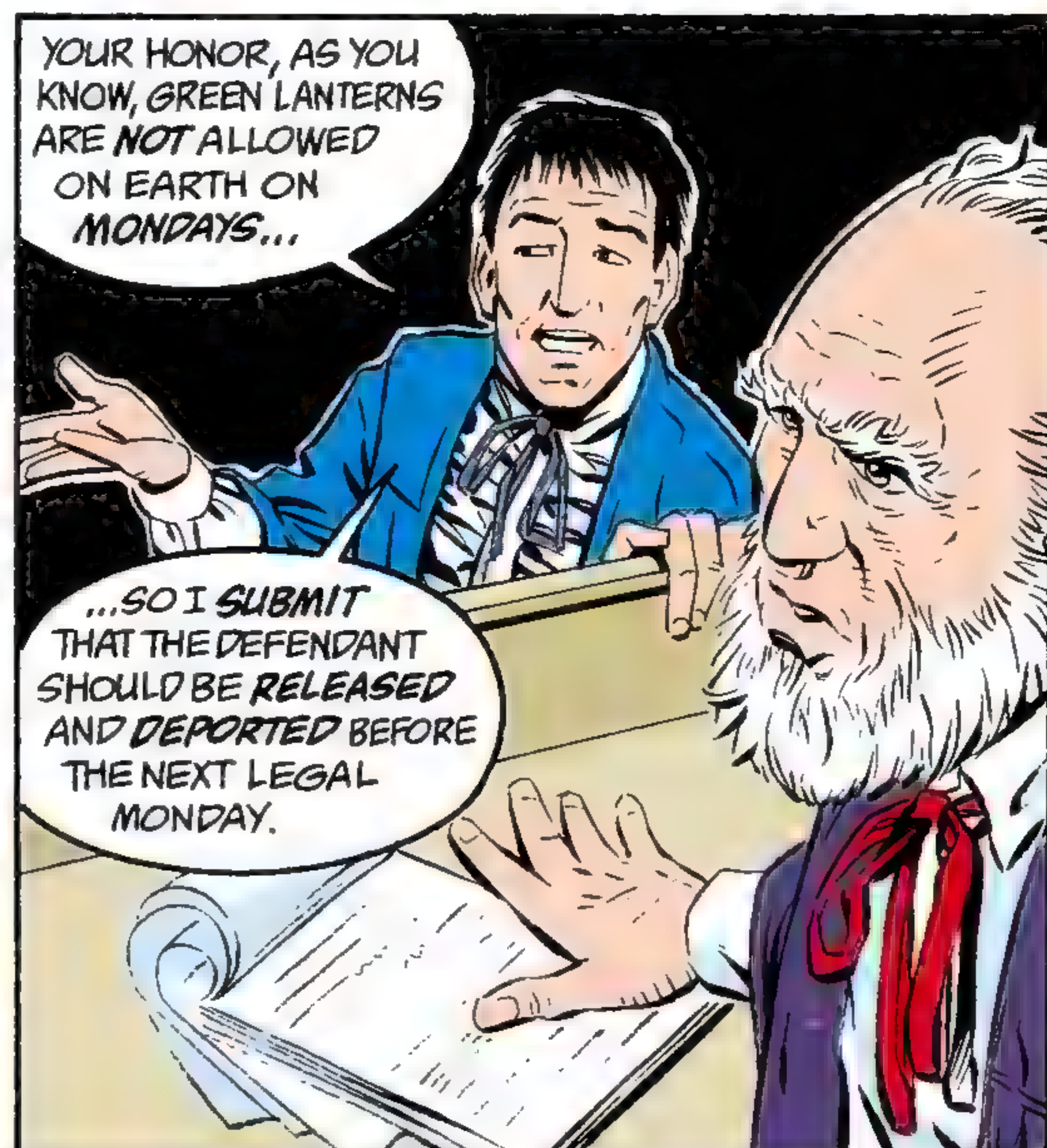
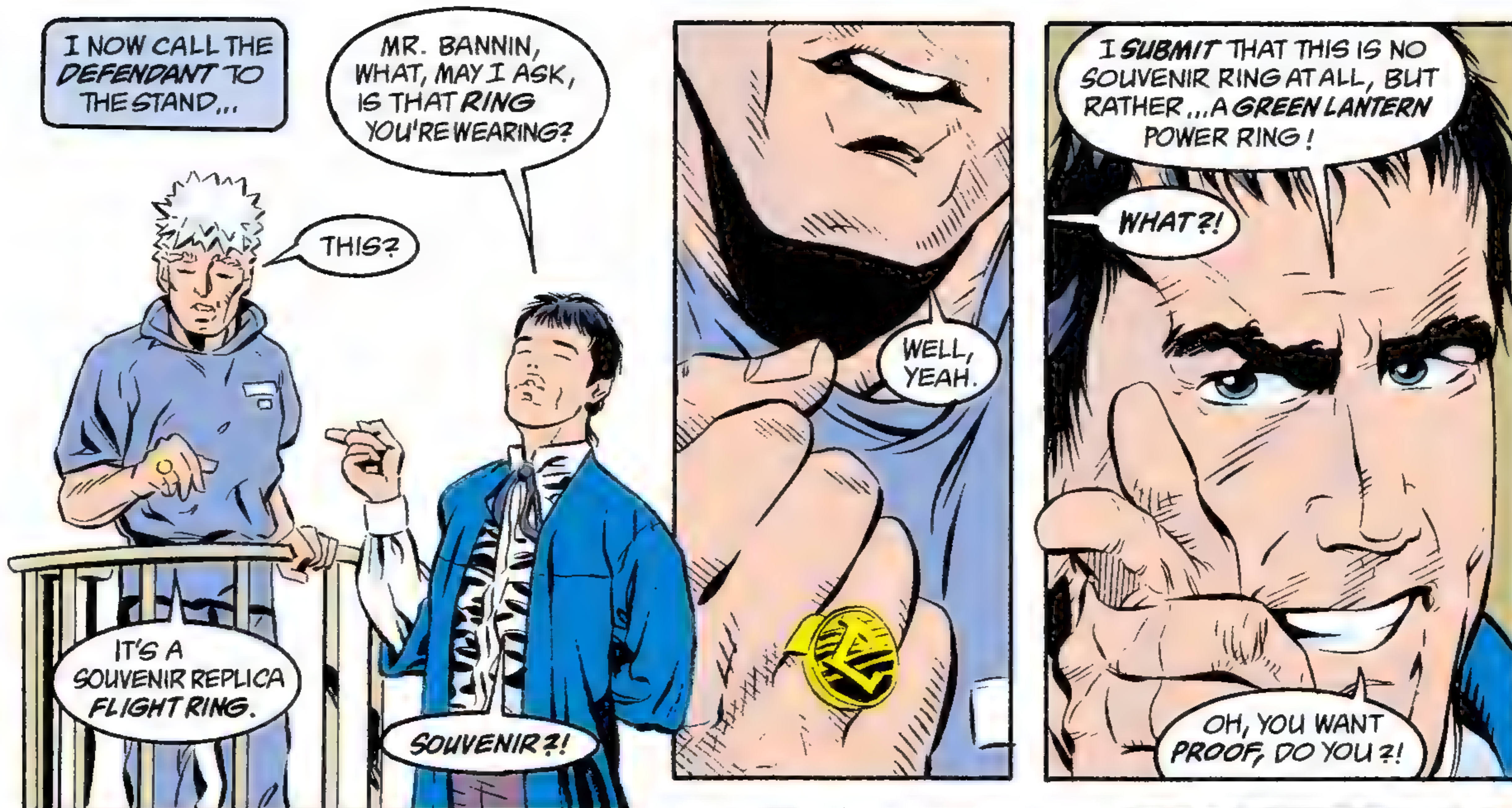
UPV CHANNEL 4

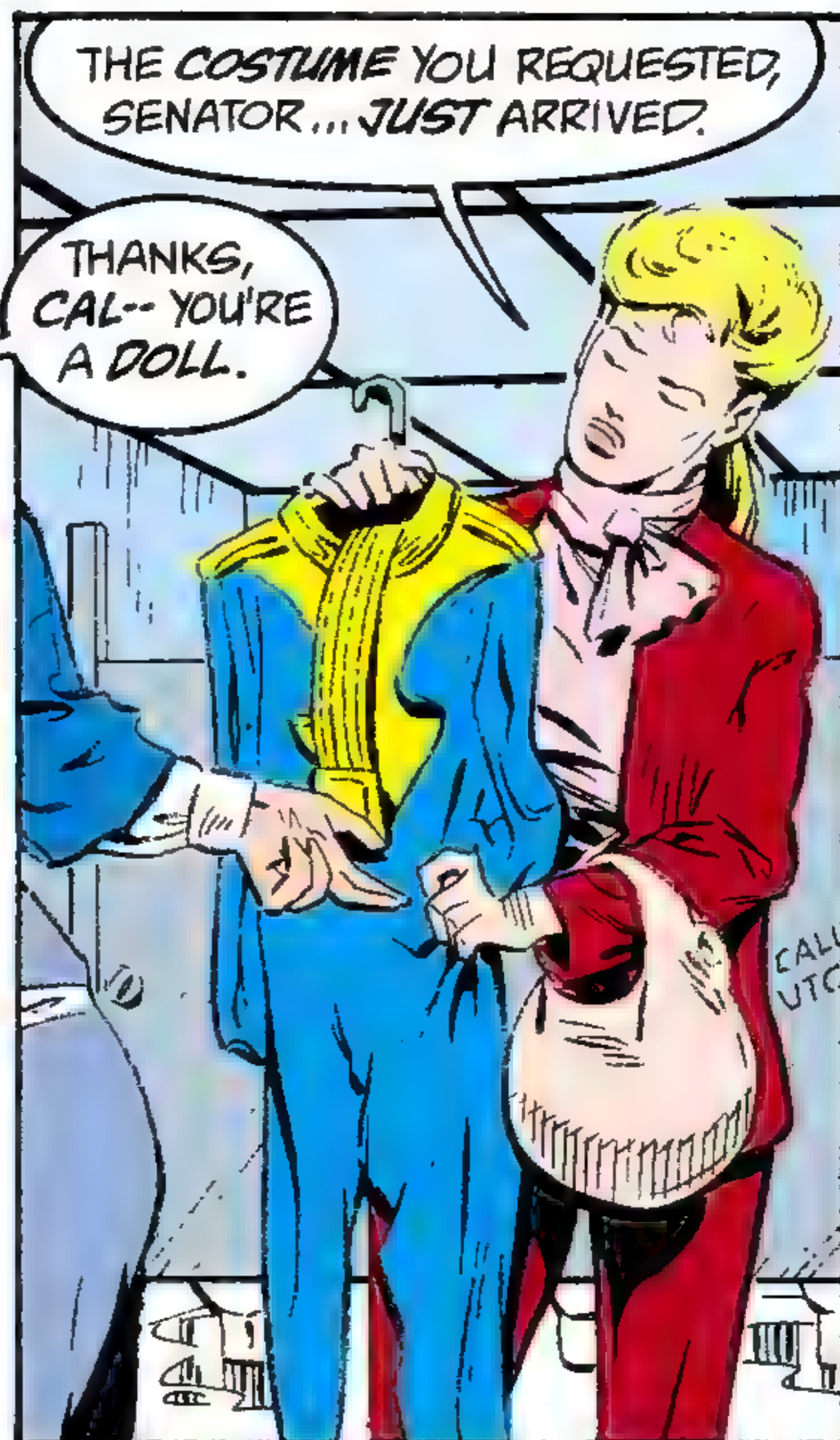
WE NOW RETURN
YOU TO YOUR REGULAR
PROGRAMMING...



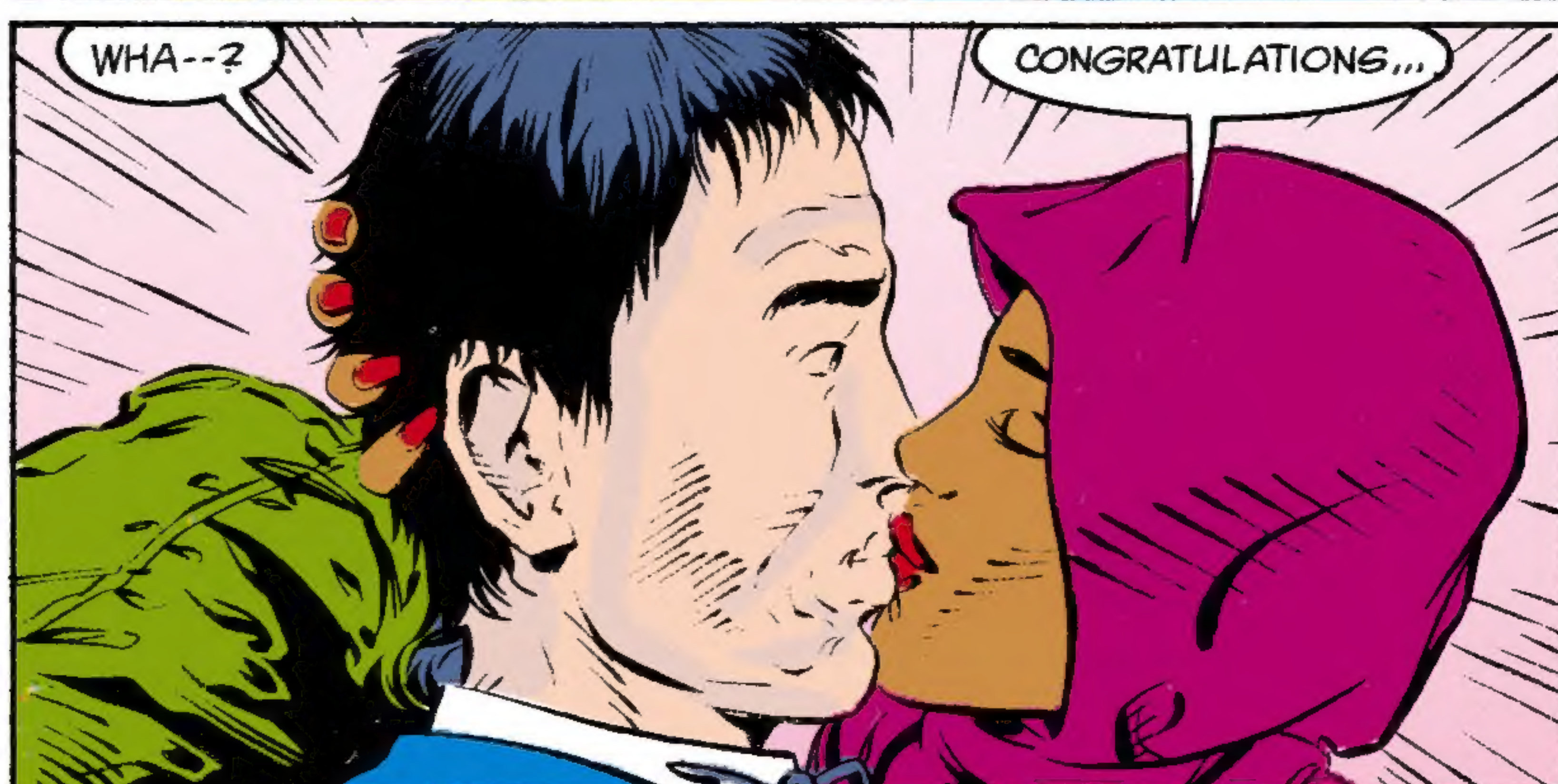
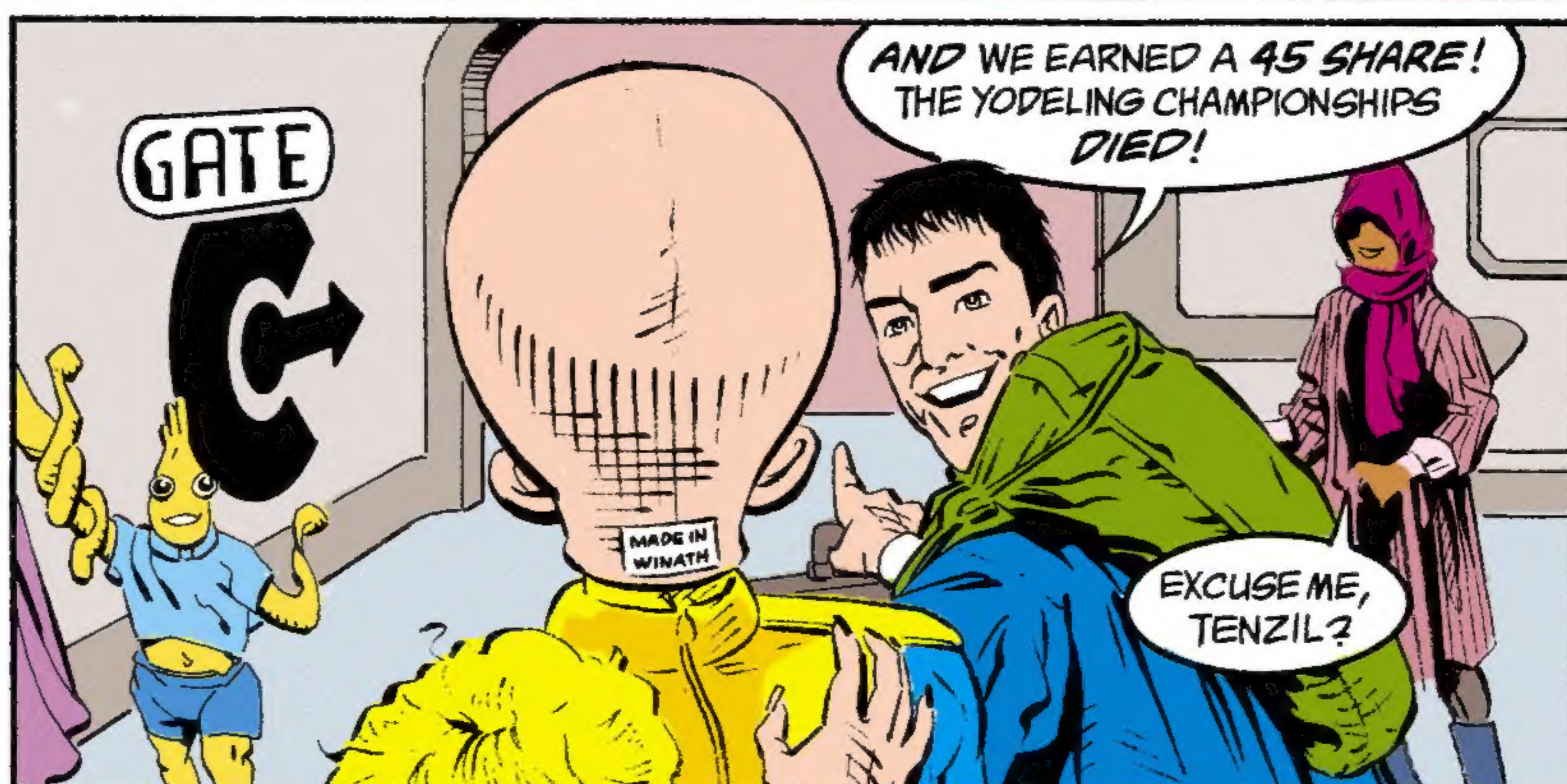
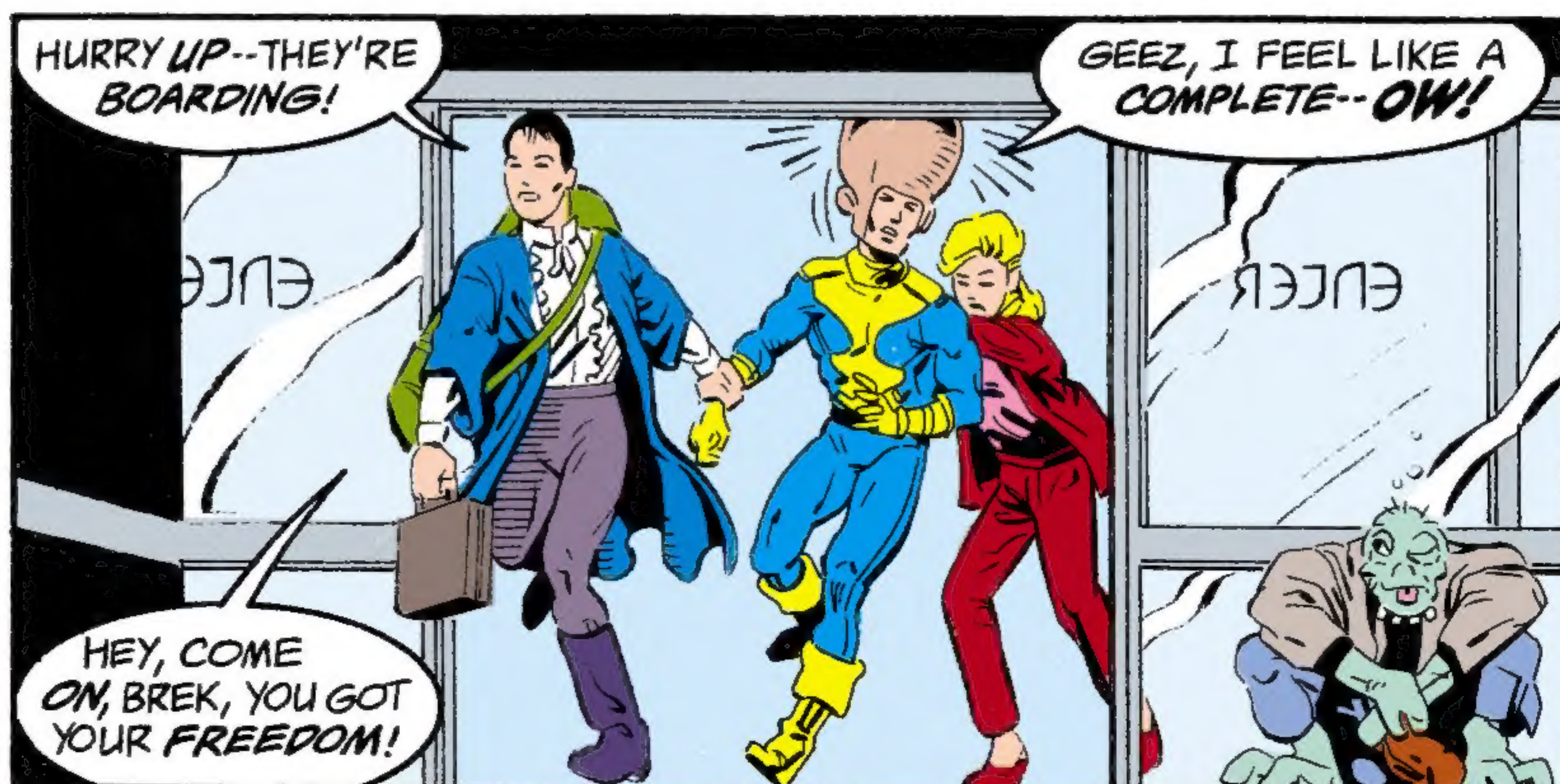
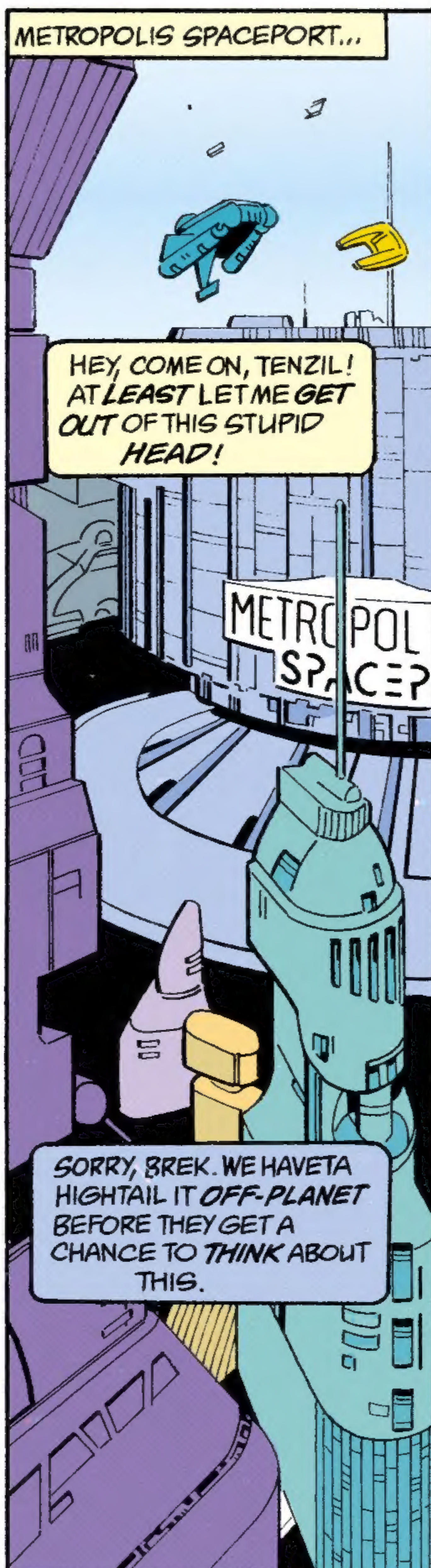












Holo Scene

A Critical Look At This Week's Entertainment, with Bril Tone and Har Daws
IPV Channel 104, Dec. 5, 2994, 7:30-8 p.m., Excerpt from Transcript



Tone: Next up on "Holo Scene," a look at "Tenzil for the Defense," the alleged courtroom drama starring Bismoll's Sen. Tenzil Kem.

Now, if the *ratings* are to be believed, viewers are eating this stuff up. Some of you will remember when this show used to be "Legislative Horizons" and you couldn't *make up* numbers small enough to measure its audience. Then Sen. Kem came along with his dancing girls and animal acts, and a stale little discussion program became the highest-rated show Bismoll had ever produced. And as he's changed formats, the show keeps climbing up that Box Scores list.

But *I'm* having trouble figuring out how to even *describe* this new series. They tell me it's a courtroom drama. Maybe it's supposed to be a comedy. *I* think it's a *mystery*. And the mystery is, why would anybody watch it voluntarily?

The drama isn't dramatic and the comedy isn't funny. There's even a pie in the face for poor old Polar Boy. Now, come on, people! Isn't it time somebody treated that poor guy with a little respect?

And I won't even get *into* how this show treats women, which is very sexist.

But ultimately, "Tenzil for the Defense" doesn't fail because of *these* flaws, though they certainly don't help. It fails because its courtroom setting lacks any semblance of credibility. You simply cannot believe any of this nonsense could actually take place in the lofty halls of the Earthgov courts.

And for its complete lack of credibility, I have to give "Tenzil for the Defense" an appendage down.

Daws: You know, it surprises me to hear you say that. I thought the setting was very credible. I thought the courtroom scenes rang true.

Tone: You *believed* those courtroom scenes? You *bought* that Braino business?

Daws: Within the context of the satirical intent, I thought it worked. I had no problem with it. I thought the program was making a valid statement about how the legal system can be used unfairly against an enemy of the government. I thought it did that very well.

Tone: I thought it was a tired old cliché. The poor, innocent defendant being railroaded by the Big Eye in the Sky. We've seen that story done a hundred times before, and *better* than this.

Daws: Well, I thought the story rang true. I thought the performances were convincing. "Tenzil for the Defense" is sometimes very dramatic and sometimes funny, if you laugh at this sort of thing.

That's not the problem with "Tenzil for the Defense." The *problem* is that Tenzil Kem is an elected official of the Planet Bismoll. He's being paid taxpayers' money to represent the people of his native planet. I mean, there's a depression going on here, folks, and this guy is out having a grand old time at the taxpayers' expense. That's supposed to be *funny*?

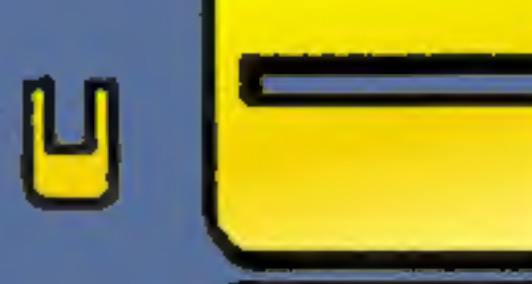
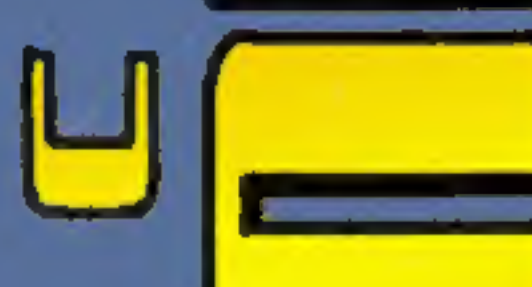
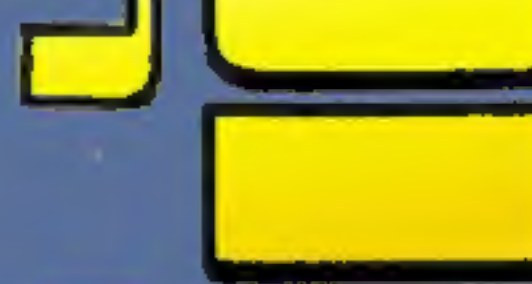
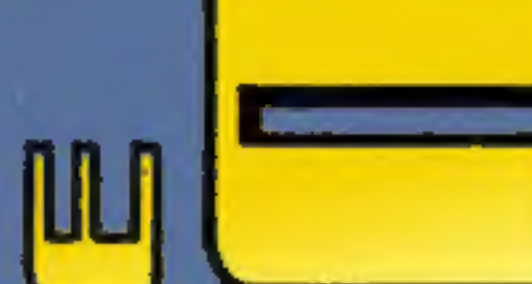
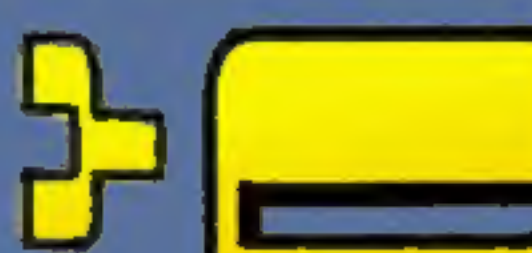
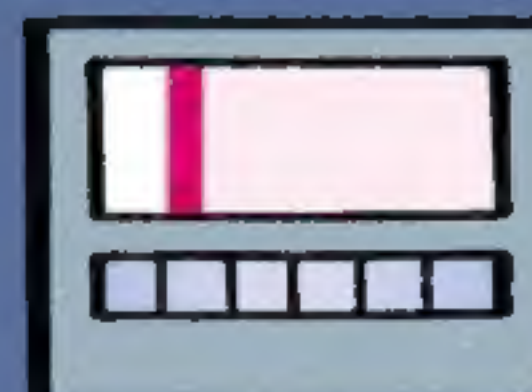
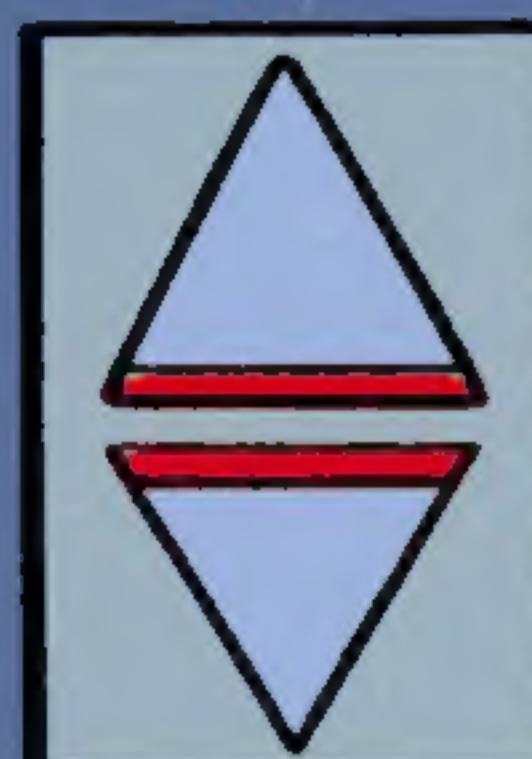
Yes, we've all heard the stories that he'd rather *not* be living the life of a politician, that he's serving against his will—of how he's just begging Bismollgov to bounce him from the legislature so he can go back to playing Legionnaire.

And sure, they say this show is putting more tax credits into the government coffers than his salary and expenses combined. That's all well and good.

But who's representing those Bismollian voters? Who's tending to the important issues of that planet? Certainly not Sen. Kem, who's too busy out playing television star.

For that reason, I have to give "Tenzil for the Defense" an appendage down.

Tone: So, recapping, I said "Tenzil for the Defense" lacks credibility, it's sexist, the drama isn't dramatic, the comedy isn't funny. Har disagreed, saying he *believed* the courtroom scenes, but that Kem could be putting the taxpayers' credits to better use than this.





IT'S... ALL
WE CAN DO...

"...VACATION
ON VENUS..."

"...SONIC ASSASSINS
OR SOMETHING?..."

"...FOUL PERVERTED
SCHEME OF THE HIGHEST
CASTE..."

OH, LIBERTY!

BLOODY LIBERTY!

A DAY THAT
THAT WILL LIVE
IN *INFAMY*...

BEHOLD... HE
LIVES! TRULY HE
IS THE GREAT SUN-
GOD!

HE IS THE TOOL
OF OUR ENEMY!
SLAY HIM!

WHAT THE
BLOODY
GRIFE--?!

GREAT
IS! SHE
DISAPPEARED...!

THAT'S WHY THEY CALL
IT *INVULNERABILITY*, PAL...

HAVE THE REST OF
OUR LIVES TO SPEND TOGETHER...

CAN'T BELIEVE WE'RE
FINALLY DOING IT...

"...MY GOD... THE ENTIRE
PLANET... EVERY MAN, WOMAN,
AND CHILD SLAUGHTERED..."

STOP HIM!
STOP HIM!
HE'S TOO LATE...
HE'S OUT THE
AIRLOCK...

"...HE DID IT... HE
SAVED THE GALAXY...
BUT AT WHAT A
COST...
TO KILL MR. BRANDE..."

GET DOWN!
EVERYBODY
DOWN!

I MEAN, BLOODY
LIBERTY, THAT BOY WAS
MURDERED...

HE'S THREE-EYED SAM
FROM THE PLANET WHAM!

WE'VE BEEN
SPOTTED!

A GAMMA
GRANDE!
WE'LL FILL IN THE
CRATER... HERE...

